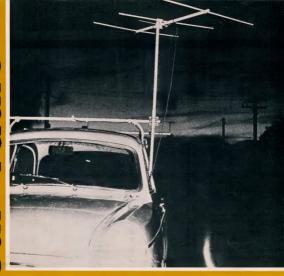
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VOL. 43, No. 3

**MARCH 1975** 

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## COVER PHOTO

"Foxhunting" is a popular 2 metre activity in Australia. It is surprising what excellent results are obtained with a simple three element beam mounted on the side of the car. Photo: Roly Roper VK3YFF



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# amateur radio

JOURNAL OF THE WIRELESS INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIA, FOUNDED 1910



IARII NEWS



**MARCH 1975** VOL. 43, No. 3 Price, 70 cents

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the IARU R3 Association Conference in Reg. Office: 2/517 Toorak Rd., Toorak, Vic. 3142 Hong Kong from 4th to 13th March in the Lee Gardens Hotel (see Jan. AR, p.6). The Agenda for the Conference was circulated before Christmas and predictably includes the usual round of formali-VK3ARZ ties including the appointment of Con-Assistant Editor: ference Chairman, Secretary and Asst. Sec., Credentials and Editorial Commit-VK3UV tees, Agenda and Rules of Procedure. Reports from officers, Society delegates VK3ABP and other interested amateurs are then

VK3CIF

taken, followed by discussions on these. Then comes matters arising from the 1971 R3 Tokyo Conference, a summary and review of the 1971 ITU Space Conference by Tom Clarkson ZL2AZ and an address about the 1979 WARC by IARU President Mr. Noel Eaton YE3CJ.

Arrangements are going ahead well for

The formulation and adoption of policies as the result of further discussions and appointments of Working Groups then follows in association with the best methods of implementing such policies.

Two additional matters arising from the 1971 Tokyo Conference are then on the agenda namely "Conformity with the ITU Radio Regulations" and "Development of amateur radio activity in Region III." Discussion on the Intruder Watch

Scheme is followed by general proposals submitted by member Societies, the budget, election of Directors for the next triennium, date and venue of the 4th IARU R3 Conference and formal closure.

The triennium budget as might be expected shows that inflation may well catch up with the R3 Association for the 4th Conference, not because of increases in the exceedingly modest secretariat expenses, but from anticipated travel and accommodation charges which would then have to be met for the Directors and officers of the Association despite the assumption that the Association should expand slightly. The budget prudently includes a little for travel expenses within the Region.

The WIA have three main papers for this Conference to date. An Intruder Watch document which could prove difficult "to sell" in the light of the WIA apparently being the sole interested party in intruders throughout the entire region. A well documented up-to-the-minute paper about the need for international uniformity of frequency allocations in the VHF/UHF region by the Chairman and members of the Institute's VHF/UHF Advisory Committee is the second of the three papers and ideally is aimed at Administrations rather than other amaleurs who need little convincing about this (e.g. Mataysia and absence of the 2m amateur band). The third paper is a report by myself as the WIA delegate.

Tom Clarkson's reports about the 1971 WARC are of course exceedingly bulky and much of the material has already been adequately reported over the years since then. Tom Clarkson also produced proposals for consideration by the R3 Conference for strengthening the Amateur Service influence in the right directions for WARC 1979. Tom suggests, inter alla, that during 1976 and 1977 a personal call should be made by the IARU President (or Deputy) upon the heads of all the Radio Administrations and this should be sought and arranged by the national Society.

A report by Michael Owen VK3KI, one of the Directors, supports Tom Clarkson's proposals with a number of detailed suggestions to aid in implementation. I am looking forward to this Conference

as your appointed representative but I feel a little disappointed that although WIA Divisions, were specifically asked to send material forward to help me at this Conference but the response was noticeable 1000

Let us wish the R3 Association well for their Conference which may well be crucial for this part of the world in the next few years.

D. A. WARDLAW VKSADW

Federal President

IN DAYS OF OLD "A splendid attendance of members and visitors totalling about 100 was the result of a broadcast invitation. All were very enthusiastic and the meeting was an unparalleled success. Several proposal forms were filled in and a great many more were taken away for completion. A very interesting lecture on Induction Coil Construction was delivered by Mr. J. Strickland and was greatly appreciated by those present. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the lecturer. Several specimens of home made in-struments were on view". Excerpts from the minutes of a General Meeting of the Amateur Wireless Society of Victoria held in the Oxford Chambers.

Bourke Street, on 5th December, 1912

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS IN PERU "It (the Regulations dealing with radio amateur activity) also lave down that all radio amateur stations must be permanently operational in the 40 metre band so that they can be called upon all any time to take part in the emergency service'.
Radio Amateurs column in the Telecommunications Journal, Oct., 1974.

70 PM DRAFT BAND PLAN Are you active on the 70 cm band? If so, have you sent in your comments on the proposed Oct 747 If not do it now or be for ever silent as the saying goes.

Published monthly as the official journal by the Wireless Institute of Australia.

P.O. Box 150, Toorak, Vic., 3142

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# QSP

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DECEMBER 2799. A role from Geeff Syme, a VIA member in A note from Geeff Syme, a VIA member of serious operations carried out by a number of serious control of the control of the control of the Symptomic Control of the Control of the State Emergency Services. He convented man which the use of repetiers and the direct sit for all the eres are started by fluodisections site for all the eres are started by fluodisections site for all the eres are started by fluodisections site for all the eres are started by fluodisections and for all the eres are started by fluodisections and for all the eres are started by fluodisections and for all the eres are started for fluodisections for the started of the control of the property of the control of the control of the property of pr

that viring a separate very difficult at night unless portable serials can be strong up high enough and greater power is available.

AH AWAROS

The Publications Committee announce the following ewards for the year: 1974—

awards for the year 1974 — Higginbothsm Award (worth \$50) to Eric Jamieson VKSLP for his splendid work in continuing his interesting VHF/UHF column.

A.S.J.A. (Plaque and \$10) to Don Marshall VK4ZAF for his article "The Brisbans Veiley Flood Disaster" published in April AR. Technical Award. Because so many articles vied equality with each other for first choice the Com-

equally with each other for first choice the Committee fait unable to select any particular one as more outstanding than the others for the purposes of this Award (worth \$25).

MORE STATISTICS

MORE STATISTICS

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more if it were not for the considerable savings achieved by Forward purchasing of paper, combined with judicious juggling of paper weights and pages per lesse to make the most occoromical use of postal rates. It sowers that AR is not therefore unique in the way we also must juggled OVERSEAS LICENCE FEES

Taking the old Si as a predict, what major countries changed more for the neural analyses (inconsiste license memeral? Seathy as the comments the comments the comments the comments of the comments of the comments of the comment of the comments of the com

In BAID 18 U.K.

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smallers full access to the 164-165 Mitt segments
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144.9 Mitt. We cannot see that the second of the seco

## CW NETWORK PROGRESSES

CW NETWORK PROGRESSES
Founded about two years ago by Frank (WK4II),
the CW flet is now a regular each Bunday morning on 7 MBC. At the lime of writing, the net has
functioned 87 times, and has drewn into its ranks
functioned 87 times, and has drewn into its ranks
make the properties. These
man are firm believer in the "operation." These
prathy in a world where technological completely
in other developed for its own sale, or for own sale,

is often developed for its own sales, or for commorcial reasons.

Till recently be Net Controllers have come form either VRZ or VRX, but on Sunday January 50s, a Victorian, VRXXVI, conducted the net for the first tillne and in a most differior manner. Dres handled the necessary OSOs for eligiteen amateur owing a twe-hoor season, and repeated the parcentified in the following Sunday, And when one considers were season of the control of the protor of the control of the co

considers that each station would average about three contacts per session, this represents a considerable amount of work.

The net is there to be used by anyone reasonably proficient in CW operation. It will be found on 7025 kitz at 1000 hrs EAST on Sundeys.

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# Trade News



Poter Williams, VKSIZ, has recently been appointed general manager of newly-formed VICIA international Psy. Limited. Peter (income around the traps as "IZ") has been active in WIA Federal, State and International effairs and until recently managed the Australien Electronic subsidiary of the Schartier Pen Group.



poreiton (I. to r.) at the VKT Divisional Harriset were Bob VIXZ-ES. Yony 73X and Ken 75X. This see on attachment organised by the NMB Branch and see see held on BETY Bob. 32X is the Turners Based all, 8 miles west of Devroport. A number of social additions (including a festion parade of night attite are greatly enjoyed by the 50 or so adults attending. Photo counterly the Advocate of Busines.

## Vehicle Ignition

# **Noise Suppression**

Rodney Champness, VK3UG 44 Rathmullen Road, Boronia, 3155

Diagram 1 Shielded Not to Scale Plug. Elbow Coax braid over HT lead Clamp (see text) t - Diameter slightly greater HT lead than distributor & terminal Copper disc forming top of distributor shield Distributor Sheath shown as a flat sheet Coil HT Lead which is wrapped around distributor body. Spark plug HT lead Distributor Cap Cutrouts for Distributor Clips Metal Body of Distributor Cuts in sheet about every 1/2' Turned up end see text

The noise created by the lightlion and other electrical circuitry of the common automobile is well known, and well current, by the amateur who has tried mobile operation. Some, of course, have been frightneed off by the apparent problems involved in suppressing a vehicle. I intend to show a few methods of suppression from the easy to the much more laborious reservation.

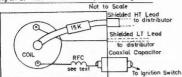
There are three easy methods. Firstly, if you are wealthy enough, you can buy a cliesel produces no diseal produces and the produces of the pr

One of the first things that I found out when coing extensive experimentation on the suppression of spark (gnittion engines was that It would be a long job if the right techniques were not used. The final conclusion that I came to was that I THE WHOLE OF THE I CAME TO WE SHE THE SERVICE OF THE STATE OF THE SERVICE OF TH

The ignition system of a car must have the whole of the HT spark system shielded, and this includes spark plugs, HT spark plug leads, distributor, connecting wiring to the coll, and the shielding of the coil top. The low tension lead from the coil is filtered because it would convey Interference to all sections of the car as it is integrated with the rest of the wiring. it is also much easier to filter this lead. There is no practical method that I know of of filtering completely the HT spark system. The carbon trace leads fitted to most new cars when new, do reduce interference gulte considerably. Regretably, many car owners and ignorant garage mechanics treat suppression leads as if they are the prime cause of engine trouble. They do give suppression figures of up to about 25 db over an unsuppressed vehicle ignition system

Having made my point in regard to the general philosophy of suppression, I will describe two methods of suppression. The

Diagram 2. View of coil from top of shielding box.



first has been reasonably successful on the HF bands but not particularly so on VHF. The second method was a lot of work but is very good at MF, HF, and VHF, and should be reasonable at UHF, and the should be reasonable at UHF. I don't claim that what I have done is necessarily original, but this style of thing has not been published in AR for many years, if ever.

At one time I was involved in the Emergency File Sanvises of South Australia and the Country Fire Authority of Victoria. I was concerned with communications, particularly the communications to and from ym nobile. Lued a No. 122 transceiver and these are not belassed with a noise limiter as such i didn't bother modifying timiter as such i didn't bother modifying the sand is a final to do comething about FE Fildden, on the ignition years of the FE Holden.

I had quite a bit of old half inch coaxial cable so this formed most of the rew material source for the suppression. The cable was stripped down to its components. The only section used was the coaxisi braid. It was cut into lengths that suited each individual plug wire and a length to suit the HT line between distributor and coil. Each of these tubes of coaxial braid was slid over the appropriate distributorplug lead. The ends of the braid were trimmed away from the plug at one end and the top of the distributor lead rubber gaskets, so that no arcing from the HT system to earth occurred. At each plug end a braid lead was soldered on and extended to the rocker cover where it was earthed. At the distributor the seven braids were bonded together. At the coil and of the distributor-coll lead the braid was bonded to the coil frame. FE Holdens do not have resistive HT cable so I fitted one of the 15,000 ohm resistive suppressors in the coil-distributor lead. This concludes all the information on the shielding of the HT aystem

The coil LT lead had a 0.5 uF 40 ampere cooxial capacitor filted in the Ignition line at the coil. These are much better than the normal suppressor used for car radio suppression work, even though three times the price. The generating system of the vehicle also required attention. The output and field leads were shielded, like the HT line, from the generator to the regulator. The output lead to the battery was

filtered with a coaxial capacitor, 0.5 of 40 ampers. The field terminal of the regulator was bypassed to earth with a series combination of a.5 ohm resistor and a 0.001 of mice capacitor. The coaxial capacitors must have their frame toga bottled cities with a series of the coaxial capacitors must have their frame toga bottled idid to the capacitor must have their frame toga bottled into the capacitors must have their frame toga bottled into the capacitors must be the capacitors of the capacito

I could now work mobile to base distances of 25 miles whilst mobile which certainly could not do before. If the set had had a noise limiter no doubt this range would have been even greater. The output power of the base was only of the order of 5 to 8 watts so I believe this was a credible performance. I found it most desirable to have the serial on the rear of the vehicle to get as far away from the engine as possible, and so escape whatever interference still remained. I bonded the engine to the firewall with a heavy earth strap such as used on batteries and did the same to the bonnet. How desirable these were I am not sure. I do know that the noise at VHF emanating from this vehicle had to be heard to be believed - it could be heard a block or so away - and other vehicles were not audible

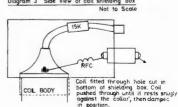
With later types of vehicles which have a rubber shearth over the spack plugs. It is likely that the braid shield can be extended down onto the top of the plug which is partially recessed into the engine. This may improve VHF suppression. If you do this style of suppression you will probably find that the ignition timing has changed and may have to be advanced or relatefed! Camont remember which.

If you really want to have your vehicle auppressed so that a sensitive AM receiver at a few feet hears no interference — then this is the method for you. A vehicle suppressed using this method should not have any trouble passing the Society of Automotive Engineers interference specification SAE-1551. The vehicle suppressed in this case was a 1970 Ford Falcon.

There was a lot of blood, sweat and tears shed during this project before success shed during this project before success was ours. This was not originally my project—my boas decided that he wanted his vehicle suppressed so that any receiver, AM or FM, could be operated in the vehicle on any frequency from the broadcast band to a couple of hundred megahertz. This was to be on a set with no noise limits. Some task?

The ignition system was to be suppressed along the initial lines of method one only in a more thorough manner. The carbon trace HT spark plug lines were removednot because we didn't like them, but because they would not suit the end terminations we would use, and they were too short. The distributor was to be completely shielded, and some interesting metal work evolved during the exercise. A metal disc slightly larger than the diameter of the distributor formed the basis of the distributor shield. This had a half inch lip bronzed to it, and through the top of the disc 6 equally spaced holes were drilled around the disc. The holes were large enough to take normal wire cored ignition HT wire. Six tubes each one inch long able to take these cables were bronzed around the circumference of the holes.

Diagram 3 Side view of cail shielding box



An additional hote for the coil-distributor HT lead was bronzed to the centre of the disc. You may have realised this was a

six cylinder engine. Around the lip of the disc was wrapped a plece of 26 gauge galvanised sheet steel and this extended down past the distributor assembly. It was held in place onto the lip of the disc by a large hose clamp. Underneath the distributor another clamp was fitted and this was intended to draw the metal of the sleeve close into the distributor housing. To facilitate this drawing in of the metal, slits were cut vertically in the metal so that adjoining pieces of metal would fit under one another. It was found necessary to turn up a few of the ends of the metal strips so that they would prevent the clamp from slipping off the metal sheath. This must be fairly tight otherwise RFI leaks out from the small gaps underneath the distributor. There were two slots cut in the metal sheet to allow access to the distributor cap clips. All of this can be seen in dia-

The HT leads extend through the disc mounted above the distributor. The disc is mounted about 2 inches above the top of the distributor cap. The HT lines are covered with heavy duty coaxial cable braid as were the leads in method one. We had no shielded spark plugs so the braid was extended as far down the apark plugs as could be achieved. The spark plug leads all had heavy rubber sleeves over them on the ends where they attached to the spark plugs. The braids were all bonded to the rocker cover near each spark plug. The coaxial shield braids were clamped onto the tubes protruding from the top of the disc on top of the distributor. Small screw type clamps available from Ford dealers or the smallest size hose clamps were used to do this job.

gram 1.

The FIT lead from distributor to coil was also shielded, and clamped in the same way. A small metal case was made to go over the top of the coil. Access to the coil was gained by removing a small panel coil was gained by removing a small panel to the case was the same as the lubes on the top of the disc over the distributor and the braid was clamped in the same way. A 15,000 ohm resistive suppressor was plead in the HT lead. The coil to distributor! The data was also shielded using a state of the distributor and the coil and the distributor as either the coil and the distributor.

The ignition switch volt 12 active lead to the coil was filtered with a variety of L and C. A small balun core as used in many TV sets was used to wind a small VHF choke. Two or three turns of single core hook up wire was used through the two holes in the core. One end went to the coil LT line the other went to a 0.5 uF 100 ampere coaxial capacitor. The capacitor output end should be the only terminal of the capacitor visible outside the case. The fiftered end of the RF choke should be very short as the capacitor may not be completely effective at VHF. Robert Bosch (Aust.), have some quite elaborate filters for this job - complete pi networks in the one metal case. The filtering is quite effective.

After all this hard work success should have been ours - it wasn't. At VHF in particular there appeared to be virtually no noise reduction - It was enough to make a grown man cry. What was wrong? Hadn't we done something we should have? What was wrong with our reasoning? We were at a loss. We thought it may have been the bonding of the vehicle itself We had all the mudguard panels spot welded every 3 inches to the engine compartment; we had the back edge of the bonnet bonded every 3 inches to the fire wall; we had the bonnet cleaned of paint so that it would make metal to metal contact with its hinges and bonding straps: we had the whole of the engine bay, engine mounts and exhaust pipe bonded with zero success. This is probably the stage that many people get to and give up - and I wouldn't blame them. After

all this work we were not going to give up.

We were going to succeed, and succeed

we did. Initially, we had been unable to obtain shielded spark plugs and these had now become available. KLG-Lodge are the only manufacturers of aircraft style shielded plugs that I know of. We obtained a set of these complete with elbows, fitted them and then listened to the glorious hiss of the receiver when the engine was running, no ignition noise. We did hear ignition noise though - that of passing cars but not ours. The type numbers of the shielded plugs I believe from memory is the same as the plugs that you may be using at the moment, only they are prefixed with the letter S. Shielded plugs are only made to order, I believe, and take about 2 weeks to come through. These plugs cost about 3 times as much as ordinary plugs and the elbows cost about the same as the plugs.

The alternator and regulator also had to be suppressed. The leads from the alternator were all shielded except that the battery lead had a coaxial capacitor wired in series with it and was unshielded. Two more coaxial capacitors were fitted to critical leads from the regulator but I cannot remember which, Later regulators will not require these extra capacitors. The shields must of course be earthed at each end for the shield to be effective. The Instruments on the Falcon are fed via a small voltage regulator and this causes noise. Dismantle the instruments and inside either the fuel or temperature gauge will be found a small bl-metal regulator. A small 0.05 uF or similar ceramic capacitor is wired from active to instrument case on the outside and another Inside from the regulated line to earth, A small ferrite cored RF choke having about 3 turns of wire through it is wired in place of the pink interconnecting wire in the instrument. This got rid of the plop that was heard every second or so in the receiver. Perhaps not all that annoying, but if suppression is going to be worthwhile the job may as well be done properly. So ends the saga of the suppression of two vehicles. The 3 diagrams will help you should you wish to try out this method. Another Falcon was suppressed identically to the first with complete success, so it wasn't just luck.

COMMERCIAL SUPPRESSION METHODS For those who wish to suppress their vehicles but do not wish to go to the trouble that we had done in the previous method I would suggest you contact firms such as Robert Bosch (Australia), who do specialised work on vehicle suppression. I have seen some of the suppression equipment used and it is quite impressive. It would take under an hour to completely suppress an average 6 cylinder car. The bits and pieces are easily removed when the car is traded in and may suit the new car with slight modification. These suppression kits are not cheap, but I can see them becoming more common as people realise their value in improving mobile

In the United States of America a variety of suppression this are advertised from time to time — these may be suitable for use here in Australia but this could not be a suitable for the could not be could not not be could not

Many people will say that suppression is not necessary on a while if you have a noise blanker fitted to the receiver. This is not strictly so. The noise pulses can be of such amplitude that they overlate the suppression of the receiver, cross be de-sensilisation of the receiver, cross and in some FM receiver, where the IF selectivity curve is saymetrical, the noise pulses defined to the receiver of the noise pulses fide through. The noise blanker is a very handy addition to a control of the ignition system.

## QSP

VHF PROPAGATION

Join the I.A.R.U. direct.

communications

This is only one of the ways amateurs can justify the portions of the spectrum we occupy — by contributing to the beaic understanding of UHF propagation. Conclusion of an article "VHFer's View of Solar Cycle 20", in Ham Radio, Dec. 74. 1925 OXEMPIC GAMES.

According to RASO (Radio Amsteurs serving the Olympical the 1978 Olympic Games are in Montreal during the summer and RASO Intend to organise Canadian amateurs for active participation in permitted facilities of communications not contrary to third party traffic prohibitions.

Leading at the U.S.A. departements in the Pacific is seen that Gouss cones under the F.C.C. and there is an enable radio club on the Island which the F.C.C. and the Island which through ARPAL. This appears to be the pattern in many other U.S. islands and does not of course feel the Region Association to be the pattern in many other U.S. islands and does not of course should be the Region Association to see the Pattern in many other U.S. islands and does not of course endies the Region of the F.C.C. and no redproact licensing arrangements are in force for these areas, so the Region of the Region of the Region of the Region of the Region and the Course of the Region of the Region and the Course of the Region of the Region and the Course of the Region and the Region of the Region and the Course of the Region and the Region of the Region and the Region of t

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cilioscope with outstanding performance features-vertical sensitivity of 20 mV/cm. bandwidth from DC to 1MHz-despite its small size and ease of operation, Lightweight and portable, it will prove to be a very handy and reliable instrument in electronic equipment assembly centres echool classroms and amateur radio stations for a wide range of scops applications.

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# some useful modifications to the FT-IOI series

The following are modifications which have been made to a FT-101B

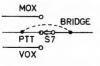
transceiver. In each case there is no external change and if deaired the unit can always be returned to its original state should this over be desired.

The author has always been of the opinion that unless some very beneficial improvement occurs, it is unwise to make extensic hanges to good commercial equipment as this will almost certainly reduce resals value. Note that these modifications were made to an FT-1016, and due to allight internal inject changes it may not feating a support of the provided of the prov

As supplied, the transceiver showed a tendency for RF feedback when using an external speaker, RF being picked up by the speaker leads. This was cured by the addition of a 0.01 uF 50 volt ceramic capacitor across the external speaker jeck [2] connecting the capacitor from the green lead to earth.

**MODIFICATION 2** 

When operating VOX It is often desirable to be able to hold the Tx on for short periods without having to continue speaking to do so. As supplied the PTT is inoperative in the VOX position. By bridging S7 (MOX-PTT-VOX selector) the Tx may be held on during VOX operation by pressing the microphone PTT switch. When this switch is released. VOX operation returns to normal, if the PTT switch is not pressed there is no change from normal VOX operation. A link is placed between the moving arm of S7 and the centre PTT contact so that PTT is available at all times. I did this by carefully placing a bead of solder across the contacts which are adjacent, falling this a short piece of





wire can be used. Care is required to prevent heat from the soldering into damaging surrounding wires and components. To make the job easier I used an instrument lip on my iron overwound with a simple extension made of 16g copper wire which provided sufficient heat in the contined space to solder the link. MOOJPICATION 3

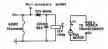
When using the FT-101B with a VHF transverter, or during loop periods when the heaters of the 6JSBCs are turned off, it is only unnecessary for the fast to continue could be supported by the fast of the source of heat is the 128Y7A driver tube which produces very little heat at any stage. The noise produced by the fast can become irritating during long periods of littleting and can even tend to make very siderable amounts of dust accumulate in the final cage over a period of time as a result of the volume of all passing through

The addition of a relay in the fan supply circuit operated from the filament line of the d.SDCCs enables operation of the particles of the component of the particles of the component is the relay. This must be physically fairly small, a 124 type, and capable of switching 100 as 124 type, and capable of switching 100 be found, a read relay with a 12 volt could also be used. Remove the bottom cover plate from the transceiver and check the could describe the country of the country of

In the author's case, there was sufficient room to fit a small relay on a bracket which was attached to the side of the frame surrounding the power transformer. The dimensions of the bracket and its exact location will depend upon the type of relay used. Ensure that there is adequate clearance from all surrounding parts. Trace the fan supply leads back to the power transformer and unsolder the white lead attached to the 100 volt terminal. Connect another lead to this terminal and then run both leads to the relay contacts. connecting them so that with the relay disconnected the fan circuit is OPEN. Next take a lead from pln 1 of the 11 pin accessory socket and connect this to a spare contact on the relay or a tag strip mounted on the chassis. From this lead connect a diode to one side of the relay coil, connect a 220 uF electrolytic across the relay coil and earth the other end.

Make sure that correct polarity of the rectifier is observed as this circuit must cater for 12 volt DC operation as well as 240 volt AC mains operation. When used on 12 volts DC, the diode conducts and allows the relay to operate. A far simpler way of controlling the fan would be to place an on-oil switch in the 100 volt line, but this could easily be forgotten. The

Geoff Wilson, VK3AMK 7 Norman Ave., Frankston, Vic., 3199



relay circuit is completely automatic and ensures cooling of the final tubes whenever they are used. NOTE: Some relays may run hot under

continuous operation if the voltage exceeds 12 volts. If ao reduce the coil voltage by adding a parallel resistor of suitage by adding a parallel resistor of suitable value and wattage. It is not recommended that this principle be used with the FT401 etc. These transceivers have many valves and continuous cooling is desirable, especially in hot climates.

## QSP

W.A.R.C. 1979

The text off the matter is total in these times to writing strangth or her I/I is according to yearned with the control of the I/I is according to yearned and the Middle East. The Leepe is altered. Africa and the Middle East. The Leepe is altered and the Middle East. The Leepe is the Middle East. The Leepe is the Middle East. The Leepe is altered and the I/I is the most interest that the I/I is the could be a middle of the I/I is the most interest that the I/I is the I

THE FUTURE OF THE SOCIETY
The RSGB Council as reported in Nov. '74 Radio Communication had been discussing the future of the RSGB and the outcome appeared to be that the Society must now seriously consider the ad-

the Society must now seriously consider the similarisative and economic aspects of a move from London; there must be far greater encouragement to younger emembers to perificultate in the Society's attains and it must do far more to publicles the busility considering its own financies in 1976 judging by comments which came in from some samebase along with their subscriptions this year.

During a recent trip to the Northern part of

Queenaland, VKSAOK found that a sure way to radiate a good signal on 14MHz at about 0930 EAST, was to transmit from the centre of the Jordine River, 38 miles from the top of Cape York.
All of the operators on the frequency at the time from as far south as VKO, were greatly im-

preced by the increased signal strength as the river was crossed. The river at this point is approximately 350 metres wide and at least 1 metre deep.

metres wide and at least 1 metre deep.

The mobile station used a Japanese transceiver and a small 20 metre vertical antenna mounted on the front mudguard of a Land-Rover.





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# a twelve months study of the 20 metre band between melbourne and london

On the 14th November 1973, Jim 648GJ, South London, and myself VK3LY. Melbourne, commenced a series of chets on the 20 metre band which in effect continued intermittently for the complete 12 months thereafter.

Everything was going along nicely when about the model of May 1974, the band shoult the model of May 1974, the band want out completely in Melbourne, which of course I had done on previous occarding the model of t

By this time I of course was beginning to realise that Jim In London would be considering me a very discourteous type of individual — you see I had not told Jim that I would not be back! In occurred Jim that I would not be back! In occurred course about this lack of coursey then I most certainly was and so set about Inding a way of predicting the irregularities of the mode of communication I had chosen. The idea of a chart occurred to me. Not an indicating prediction chart, of the course of the course to the mode of communication I had view to the course of the course o

I probably have always been fascinated by the regularity of the passage of the earth in orbit around the sun. Further I have always been fascinated by the fact that the sun shines through the same hole in a cendtaph onto the same spot each year at precisely the same time as the previous year. I was further fascinated by observations I had made over a couple of years while being a 4th floor employee in a 19-storey building noting the short shadow cast by our building in Melbourne on the 21st December as compared with the very-very-long shadow cast on the 21st June each year. Of course we had learnt of this at achool but this was now taking on an added realism, as at the window

at which I worked I was able to observe

at my leisure and observe I most certainly

and that all is plain sailing -- until we realise that the earth amongst other things, is tilted on its axis by 23 degrees, and this alters the whole situation. One is forced to admit that this trick is tremendously ingenious however, for we have now introduced a system of seasons summer, autumn, winter and spring. You see now the plot thickens because the poor ionosphere doesn't know whether it is coming or going so to speak - for as stated the earth is rotating and continually presenting a different face to the sun. And because the earth is following an elliptical path it is always at a different distance from the sun to that had it been only on a circular orbit, where at least it would have always have been at the same distance from the sun. So much for the complexities which initiated the idea of the chart

The chart Itself was produced by drawing an ellipse with a looped piece of string and two drawing pins. Try it for yourself - put the pins about three or four inches apart, place the string loop over them, now with a ball-point pen or pencil strain the string loop slightly and following the perimeter draw out an elliptic type path. The ellipse itself is then divided into quarters and subdivided until the segments are reduced to the chart as illustrated. One end of the ellipse was elected as representing the 21st December and the other end as the 21st June, while the 21st March and the 21st September are at their usual positions on the equinox line. or equinoctial fine as listed on the chart From there on divisions and date lines follow eventy. The principle applied was that there are 360 degrees in a circle and 365 days in a year -- near enough for one degree to equal one day.

3 Rowell Ave Camberwell, 3124

All of the G4BGJ signal strength readings recorded on the chart were taken on the long-path, our normal communication path for that time of the day. The few readings taken on the short-path were from other G stations. The length of the lines drawn are scaled to represent the signal strength of the station being received. S1 being a dot 1/16th inch long. S5 being 5/16th inch and S9 being 9/16th inch long. A line drawn from the parlmeter away from the sun in the centre of the chart Indicates a long-path contact whereas a line drawn in towards the sun from the perimeter indicates a short-path contact of which a few only are recorded. there being very few short-path loggings as compared to the long-path. Times are shown as Melbourne time and are listed as Eastern Australian Standard Time (EST) which is 10 hours shead of Greenwich Mean Time or conversely GMT is 10 hours behind EST. Where no contacts are recorded this is because no signals were coming Into Melbourne from G land due to lonospheric disturbances caused presumably by solar flares or solar storms, both associated with the manufacture of a sunspot - be it ever so humble. Some of the solar disturbances put the bend out of action for 10 days - another lot for 19 days - thereafter in Melbourne was to occur the longest band drop-out of 72 days or 21/2 months, that was from 17th May 1974, until the 29th July 1974. This was on the long-path and the frequency was around 14140 kHz and in the normal time region of band openings between 0500 GMT to 1000 GMT, the times in this

Below is a reproduction from a colour slide of the chart prepared by Ron VK3LY



## SIDEBAND ELECTRONICS SALES and ENGINEERING

BALUNE

New Japanese model, in 52 or 75 Ohms impedance 1 KW

Model 15-320 AC-DC transceivers, for a glowing description, see September 1974 QST magazine, with external speaker unit \$550	New Japanese model, in 52 or 75 Ohms impedance 1 KW PEP \$10
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SIDEBAND ELECTRONICS SALES and ENGINEERING

P.O. BOX 23, SPRINGWOOD, N.S.W. Post Code 2777 TELEPHONE, DURING BUSINESS HOURS ONLY! STD 047 511-394 segment being of particular interest and were charted accordingly. There was an occasional opening to Span or Southern France in that time — but to G land — well if you look at the chart you will see an occasional working but it seemed to an exasperated operation in Melbourne, that "never" would have been a nearer

The shortest QSO betwee G4BGJ South London, and VK3LY Melbourne, was for about two minutes - time only to exchange callsigns when the band faded out. However, that was only on one occasion. The longest QSO occupied us for something like 21/2 hours. The average QSO on SSB would have been for about 11/2 hours which would also have been about the length of the band opening. SSB was the normal communication mode used. Transceivers at each end were FTDX 401s plus a linear at the G end. Antennas were, at G4BGJ a Mustang Mosley at 40 feet while at VK3LY a 2 element homebraw tribander at 22 feet was operative.

A comparison of charts drawn up by keen amateurs around the world would certainly be most revealing. A chert comparison taken between the Australian cities on the Eastern coast would in themselves be a revelation in displaying the variations of the band over a similar path to any country the amteur operators so elected. This project would call for quite a discipline for the twelve months in that those conducting the experiment would require to be in attendance at band opening times for the sake of recording or not recording on the chart, whichever it turned out to be for that day or night. As stated, a chart comparison taken on the asme band around band-opening times at Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne and Hobart in Australia in itself would be tremendously interesting as each of these capital cities are almost on similar longitudes while differing satisfactorily in latitude for the exercise. The times given on the chart purport to be band-opening times. These became very accurate as the operator became adept in recognising and observing the opening to G land. The commencement date for the taking of readings was the 14th November 1973, and the final reading was the day before that date in 1974, I define the band-opening time as being that time at which the G station became reability 5. On first hearing the G station, the time and signal strength is immediately logged together with the dial frequency-reading, being recorded on scrap paper initially for comparison purposes while scanning the band, the final signal strength being recorded on the chart; in short you sample the band

Because of the rotation of the earth from west to asst the New Zealanders from west to asst the New Zealanders have the G stations open before the VK3 stations. As a result of this it is not uncommon to find yourself listening to the ZLs working the Gs for perhaps at ½ hours or so before the Gs are even being heard in Australia. This in staff is an interesting experiment in that it makes it easy to hear the birth of a G station from finl heard,

to the eventual final signal strength at which that particular signal is going to settle down. Only temporarily of course, for the life of a DX signal on the highfrequency bands is normally of a very temporary nature. The birth of the incoming signal when it starts can be from 2 minutes to perhaps 10 minutes before it reaches its maximum signal strength, its final strength being predetermined by conditions associated with the ionosphere, power into the antenna at the transmitting end, and the antenna height and gain. At the receiving end we have exactly the reverse situation except that the receiver takes the place of the transmitter. This of course presupposes that locations are normal and that directional antennas are being used for best DX communication purposes and are of course beamed correctly towards one another

From the series of observations taken in constructing the chart it became obvious that the boys around Sydney were generally able to contact G land slightly earlier (because of the slight longitude difference) and more frequently than their counterparts in Melbourne. This applied particularly when solar activity was having an adverse effect on the band down Melbourne way; it was not uncommon under those conditions to hear the Sydney boys working and giving the G stations normal signal reports. Under those conditions of course the more southern VK3 knows instrictively from his acquired experience of the band that this is not his night. However, this is not necessarily the end of things for it is not uncommon for conditions to change slightly and favour the VK3 more then previously.

In summarising the advantages of this particular type of chart over the normal ionospheric prediction chart I would say that this particular chart provides the operator with:—
(i) a fuller comprehension of the band

by providing a better understanding of its behavioural pattern, (ii) an indication of temporary band drop-outs of a periodic nature,

(iii) and indication of winter (at the Australian end) band drop-out as well as an indication of a return to continuity of communication for the remainder of the year,

(iv) a rough prediction of probable repeat performance for guidance purposes for the following years, or year at least, (v) a once in your life comprehension of the band under observation.

Statistically on the chart there are 120 contacts with G48GJ, 32 G contacts not G48GJ, plus 12 G stations beard with signal strengther recorded, allogether making a total of 174 recordings. These in inger total of 174 recordings. These in their turn produced the final chart. The every second day throughout the year, remembering that there was a time during the winter months at the Melbourne and when signals stayed out for 2½ months; although a rebirth was around the corner and patience was to eventually with the

On discussing the chart with a Canadian who engulred about the principle on which the chart was established, I repeated the opening story of the cenotaph, which brings us back to a repeating cycle of events. In short if there was no sunspot activity ever to cause magnetic storms then the band would not go out as spasmodically as it now does, and you would be left to presume that you would have an even flow of communications at the normal contact times it should be noted that the solar sterm does something else which is not immediately obvious - as stated the solar storm-causes the upset in the ionosphere and the result caused by the upset may take place for parhaps 10 days, after which the lonosphere resettles - but here is the point - it now resettles not at the point where it was before the band went out, but resettles at a point which is in direct accordance with the earth's new position on its orbit in space around the sun. If there were 10 days of disturbance the planet earth would have travelled 16 million miles further on its siliptic-path journey and the result of this is that the band would now come in earlier or later than that where it was before the sunspot disturbance under discussion (which produced the resulting magnetic storm). Whether it is earlier or later depends upon whether the earth is heading datewise towards the 21st December which is the longest day at the Melbourne end or the shortest day at the London end and which is recorded on the chart as the 17th December (possibly due to the tilt of the earth's exis from the vertical). For the purposes of straight reading it would be better to put saids this slight discrepancy as that type of change can be a separate study in itself. Let us proceed. On the chart as you approached the 17th December the band in Australia opened to G land later, opening in London also later, for the length of the place of string holding London and Melbourne together for the purposes of this exercise. does not after, the band opening being now around 1000 GMT; conversely, as the earth moves away from the 17th December towards the 21st June the time of band opening becomes earlier - i.e. 0530 GMT with the intermediate times of opening being proportionally distributed along the intervening date points on the chart, inserted on the chart you will find references to 40 metres and an occasional reference to 15 metres. Please consider these as extras in terms of G land openings to Australia and they were not really associated with the main project, that of course being the study of the 20 metre band only. Having now completed the elliptical trip

around the sun on plant earth and having covered something like 538 million miles you now may have a better appreciation of the dipositive troubles had by the ionosphere in endeavouring to adjust to its changing surroundings; in spite of everything, the band does have a tremendous element of logic despite a seeming multitude of inconsistencies.

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F.M. and Repeaters for the Hadin Ametrica. A gold golds wester by variety angents. Wester of inter-fice special group for the BA.ZE.

## **VHF** UHF an expanding world

with Eric Jamieson VK5LP

Forreston, S.A. 5233 Times GMT AMATEUR BAND BEACONS 53,100 VKOMA, Mawaon VKOGR, Casey 53.200 144 475 VK VK1RYA, Camberra VK2WI, Sydney 52,450 VK2WI, Sydney 144.010 VKSRTG, Vermont VK4RTL Townsyllie 144,700 52 600 VK4WI/1, Mt. Mowbullan 144 400 VK8 VK5VF, Mt. Lofts VK5VF, Mt. Lofts 144,800 SWI VK6RTV, Perth VK6RTU, Kalgoorlie VK6RTW Albany x 52,300 62.350 52 950 VK6RTW, Albany VK6RTV, Parth VK7RTX Devengent P29 P29GA. Lee, Nuglni 52 150 3DAA, Suve, FIS 3DAA, Suve, ... ZLIVHF, Auckland ZLIVHW, Walkerd ZL2VHF Wellington 21.1 145.100 145 150

145,200

145.250

145,300

x denotes addition Beacon news this morth shows the new Albeny 6 maire beacon with a fisting on 52 950, and re-ported heard by Kerry VKSSU at Ceduns. It uses slow CW with 5 waits output presently to a 5 element beam pointing east, but an omnid-rectional artenna is planned for the beacon. No news has been heard of the Darwin beacon VKSVF since the cyclone so it can only be presumed to be lost along with so much other damage, and I guess there are more (moortent things to do in Darwin at present than worry about the beacon However, probably something will be heard about it by the time the next DX "season" comes around at the

ZL2VHP Palmeraton North

Z3\_VHF Christchurch

ZL4VHF Duned-r

71.0

end of the year NAME AND POST OF This band seemed to be behaving in a somewhat openings were observed to all States in November with a frequency indicating something was point to happen serly Possibly the best way of coing over activities would be to pick out some of the highlights as I saw them, and with some news from other areas to complete the picture One of the highlights would have been the copying of the Figi beacon 3D3AA by VK7JV and SW22AM on 24th November for 15 minutes with a gra s 5 x 3. Distance would be over 3000 km. About this time news came to hand that VKSVF the Darwin beacon was operating as a transponds and was capable of giving signal reports back to the calling station . . . 18/12 Rod VK2BQJ (ex ZQJ) reported digging in the garden - conse quently missed working ZL4s John VK4ZJB worked some JAs on this day 28/12 mlt 23 districts 1 to 4 worked 27/12 VK7ZAH heard 3DSAA beacon, and later worked VK2BKE on Lord Howe who was using an FT200 driving FTV650 Jim VKSZMJ also worked VK2BKF Good chaos. ZLs still available 1/1/75 open to all States all day to VK4 report came to, still unconfirmed that Clarrie VK5ZCV heard 9Y4VV in Tripldad 4/1 ZLs again, including ZL4PG (Devid) From the end of the first week in January conditions tapered off quite markedly, or the operators did, but openings did continue intermillently most days culminating in a good opening to VK6BV and others in Kalgoorie on 28/1 and a

very strong opening to VK1 and VK2 on 29/1 Summing up my Impressions of aix metres this I'me not as many good openings or contacts to VK3 as some times . VK2s very noticeable by their absence, commented upon in many circles Activity in VK8 quite high with many excellent signals . northern VK4 prominent, some Bris-bane activity, but no doubt hampered by Ch. 8 most stations operating SSB now, many using

FT620 barefoot, with about 10 watts output, others using same to drive feir sized linears, therefore many years alrong signals. Several good, strong well modulated AM stations noted, mostly matching weaker AM stations noted it with the SSB boys often working quite well further up the bend good idea to get out of the QRM If crystal lockednoticed they went up further of their own free will! Band operating menners very good, never heard a cross word from snyone, and most operators indicating they would move off the fequency on completing a centect so leaving the position to the ion, nice thought boy TWO METRES

As predicted last year two metres was agavailable this year for long distance sporadic F contacts, and there were some very interesting ones. I think the letter from Kerry VKSSU would sum up most of the two metre operating, so here are some extracts for your Interest. Again, these times specifically are Eastern Summer Time to You can better associate the time of day with the activity indicated

1115 Adelaide repester Ch. 4 worked. 23/11 0700 Ch. 4 again worked. 0815 VKSBC heard 144 183 St CW S3 AM

1005 VKSLP S1 SSB 144.107 Also via Ch 7/12 0845 VK3ZAZ Ballaral worked via Adelaide Ch 4 recester VK5CU/5 mobile Adelaids worked Ch. 0030 50 and B. 15/12 0835 Heard briefly VK2YDK in QSO on

Heard VK2ZAY Gunnedah 144.1 8SB 0850 5 x 4 via Es. Worked VKSZK, VKSZTS 144 1 SSB. Worked VKSZAY Gunnedah (1636 km) 16/12 1215 21/12 1220 144.1 5 x 3 SSB via Es.

1225 Worked VK2ZCV at Tamworth 144.1 5 x 9 SS8 1251 Worked VK2ATI mobile Bailina (1974 km) on Ch. B. 5 x 4, Se.

Worked VK2YBZ portable Evans Head near Ballina Ch. B. 5 x 9. Es. 1253 1254 Heard and celled by VK4ZJB Brisbene Ch B No mont obtained

23/12 1029 Worked VK2ZRH Sydney 144.1 5 x Heard VK5NC Mt. Gamble 29/12 Worked VKSDK Mt. Gambier CW

5 E 4 30/12 0820 Worked via Ch. 4 Adelaide Worked via Ch. 1 Mt. William (Vic.) 0826 repeater

9838 to 1100 Worked VK5MT VK5MC. VK5RO VK5LP, VK5SPS, 144 1 SSB Worked VK3ASV and VK3ZVL/3 60 miles east of Melbourne via Mt William repeater, also VK3TN sero-

nautical mobile via Ch. 1 Now that's a pretty fair effort, and shows that the interest Kerry is able to give to the game has allowed him in a very short while to make some very good contacts. I would like to add the following hits as well before summing up the two metre situation During the 2 metre opening on 21/12 Jim VKS2MJ

a' Port Pirie in the mid-north of SA worked 22 stations in VK2 and VK4 using SSB and Ch FM. That's a pratty fair ellort too. On 16/12 Tony VKSZDY and myself worked Daniel VKZZDA and was the only reported occasion (to ma) of VK7 to VK5 this year Around 1/12 a report was received from Sydney that QRM was being experienced in that city to the international PMG system from a station in Hawaii Just below the 144 MHz band? Now that's a long way someone should have VFO'd down and told them to come up into our band for a contact! VKSVF Adeleide 2m beacon heard in Perth on 29/12 by VK8ZCM and VK8ZFY . . Mumerous reports of cross Eastern States openings, VK3 to VK4, VK3 to VK2, VK2 to VK4, much short skip around top end of VK4, Bundaberg to Rockhampton for example

Taken all round. It was a great time for 2 metres both SSB and FM. It shows how one mode can help the other Heving operators tairly constantly using FM on fixed channels gives interested operators the chance to monitor something, and it looks as though Ch. B (40) will remain a pretty popular frequency for a long white, despite Ch. 50 being nominated as a national calling fragmency

Looking back at the FM scene one could probably say more stations in Adelaide in particular would probably have worked into VK2 and VK4 on FM of they had better potents systems - the idea of a small vertical artenna a fine for cross town working, but when the guns are out, you need something better A 5 or 6 element beam dogsnit cost much to build, and the ideal would be one for both vertica and horizontal polarization are some operators smound who only have horizontal, but certainly 5 elements at least vertical would be a great improvement So what about it you guys. Get on the Job ready for next November and December when there should be soored of openings on 2 metres again

Summing up, 2 metres was really good this year helped by plenty of stat one having equipment on one or other of the sections of the band, and in general having better equipment than that of a few years ago. More vigilant operators help algnals on the various frequencies and in turn more neonle hear them. It would be nice to see more stations migrating to the lower section of the 144 MHz band in tune with the sentiments I expressed last month about using the 2 metre band - we don't want commercial stations operating right up slongside even the FM channe's or do you? With so many operators now having SSB aggioment on 6 metres, it is not an enormous task to utilise the SSB portion of that gear for 2 metree, a 52 MHz exciter unit, coupled 144 MHz transverter with the use of a 92 MHz oscillator chain will start you on the way If you are not keen on starting the SSB at some lower frequency. There are plenty of QQEQ3/12 valves around for 15 watta or so at 144 MHz, the QQEQ3/20 will give you 40 to 50 watte and a QCEO8/40 double that, and none of these will cost you a fortune to get going. It's essential more of blokes give very serious thought to getting off the FM channels at times and spread your interest to other areas of the band, or you may live to rue the day that you did not do something about it Channel 5A is coming!! PORTABLE OPERATION

Well, the big portable operation I started out on lust after Christman anded in diseaser? The first day (26/12) was very pleasant and many 2 metre contacts were made, plus 5 metres of course. That slight the words shifted to the north first bring no with it a viplent thunderstorm and drenching rain was out at 2.30 s.m battering down everything. ing up with 9 guy wree on the mest with the 6 and 2 metre anternas and rotator Gradually the winds shifled to the west and increased a violence until they were screaming around the 1445 foot peak of Mypongs Hitl In excess of 40 knots, himpatening to tase swerphing april is pent most of the hight standing up in the caravan in one comer holding it down against the wind which was raising the wan 2 to 3 inches with each gust. The rain still poured down. My only comfort was the torch. The alternator was outside covered down (I hoped) so couldn't ave me any cheerful lights. It hoped; so couldn't give me any cheerest tights. Next morning the ran slowed down, but the winds continued to rise in strength, and arger I tied the caravan down as best I could with baling twine and Iron droppers. When the rain finally stopped, a uncovered the alternator, and got at going deciding I might try my luck on the bands despite the winds. All the equipment was safely housed in a Kombi van which weathered

the storm well, and kept everything guite dry. From time to time I had to sweep off operating table because of the fine sand being blown onto it. The antennas (4 el. on 6, 10 a on 2) took an awful hammoring and so did the very plucky rolator, but they all held together By mid-affernoon I couldn't stand watching the caravan lift off the ground a few inches with the stronger gusts, so decided to peck it in -- much to my disappointment Summoning some nearby help I was able to

finally get the mast and antennas down in one place. How I still don't know. The rotator was encrusted with salt from the spray off the sea and then I realised from where att the send had been coming on to the table. The map showed I was 9 miles from the nearest part of the ocean, yet the winds were so strong and unabating that they never allowed the spray or sand to drop sence it became airborns. What an ordes!! I'll go out portable again one day of course, but I don't think to Mycorpa Hill - too exposed to the

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e ements, but what a pity, such a beautiful alter for VNF If only to console myself to a degree, I did hear eventually that some of the VKS boys also packed up due to adverse conditions, so I didn't fee qu'ts such a c'i cken after a.l.

MOONBOUNCE Congratu ations to Chris VK5MC for his continuing success with 144 MHz moorbource. At 1105Z on Saturday 30th November Chris contacted VE2DFO and WakPy on CW then a 2 way contact was successful with WakPy on SSB, which looks like being a VK first for SSB moonbounce. Chris sent 5 x 6 and received S2 back. Chris used 150 walts input for CW and 300 watts PEP output for SSB, to 4 stacked rhomb cs 50 wavelengths per leg length. Converter uses U318 FET for the front-and altuated at the anterna feedpoint, and poupled to a pair of MPF121 FETs. Travor VKSNC

was n the shock at the time and was witness to the successful contacts. The Dapto (NSW) boys have run into trouble with their moonbounce equipment with extensive dam-age caused by a nearby lightning strike. Diodes and translators have had to be replaced in the power supply, defentive call in the control system, faulty coaxial relay, transmitter multiplier board and receiving converter oscillator chain transistors all need repairs. In addition the valuable 575 translator in the front end of the converter whilst not destroyed shows a marked deterioration In noise figure, so it appears it will be several

months before the equipment will be operational again From Roger VK2ZFB comes news that Andrew VK6ZCN a starting on a 144 MHz modebounce project and tests are scheduled to commence in March with 600 watte CW to a bay of 4 x 14 st. (112 el. total) crossed Swan yagis spaced approx Am with mesh reflector and will have the capability

of reversing sense of polarization.

News is also to hard that Barry VK2ZAY in northern NSW is starting out on moonbounce and is currently looking for a suitable receiver. No other details available at the moment, but Barry will let me know in due course of his experi-

#### HISTORY BEATTER

Results of Gern nide Complex meteor scatter skeds on 13th to 16th December 1974 between VKSTZ and VK6ZGO at Ka poorlie on 13/12 a.m., VK6TZ-VK6ZBM Kalgoorle and VK6TZ and VK6SU on 14/12 a.m., VK6TZ-VK6ZBM on 15/12 a.m. and p.m. 14/12 s.m. and VK6TZ-VK6ZBM 18/12 a.m., on 52.100 SSS. Ross Hull numbers were passed on each of the 5 m/s aked sessions with Ka goorlie and Kerry VKSSJ was heard on 14/12 in Perth of the beek of VKSZBM's beam! Others participating were VKSZGZ and VKSZJD. Lawls VKSZGQ went portable to Esperance and with vertical whip heard returns from Parth Hour rates for 14/12 were 15/12 800; and 18/12 704. VKSTZ used 280 watts PEP into QGEOS/40 with 5 el. beam at

80 feet, FT820 driver HE ROLL THE MUNICIPAL Latest news from George VK3ASV Indicates the

world-wide standard 6 metre calling FM channel of \$2,525 MHz is allowly growing in activity in Austra ia, especially northern VK4, replacing the old AM net frequency of 53,032 MHz. In addi to the FM net in Brisbane, many stations have moved away from 53.032 and now operate on 53.995. The frequency has been suggested as suffable for use in VK3 to reduce Ch B TV1 52.525 FM was quite active during the last DX season in

Melbourne, but has since gone rather dead.

In VK8 the primary channel is \$2.556 and secondary 52.755 MHz. VK6WI re-broadcast their Sunday morning notes on 52 858 also. The WA VHF Group Bulletin in November 1973 proposed a 6 metre band plan, vtz. FM nets 52 500 to 52,800; AM nets 52,500 to 53,300 Experimental 53,300 to 54.000 MHz. VK6 also have used 52.586 as an

In NSW we find 52.558 used in some locations, but the primary FM net appears to be 53.950 in Sydney, especially for WICEN. The VK2 Division. proadcast by VK2AWI is on 52 525 FM and 53,868 AM. and VK2BWI on 53,982 AM In the Wollengone ares, this being an AM not in the Illewerra ares. Other AM note used in VK2 are 53.786, 53.826, 53.886 (primary AM), 53.920 (South Cosst), 53.982 (Wollongong) Also 53 538 MHz has been used as n FM net George adds - "What a mix-up?" SA, including Allos Springs, use 52:525 FM, the

main AM net being 53.100 MHz. Neither of these two frequencies are used by VKSWI, instead broadcasts are made on 52 150 using tuncable aquip

ment and SSB Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania still use 53.032 AM not, but its use appears to be dying out, VK7WI and VK3WI up to recently used \$3.032 AM for their broadcasts.

At the VK3 VHF Group meeting last March, John VK3ZMA advised two new 6 metre AM nets had been started in the Melbourne area, namely \$2.900 and 53.100 MHz, in conclusion George adds he

would like to see AM nets fade away, unless only for beginners up near 54 MHz ewey from TV, and more use made of low power 6 metre FM nets Thanks George for the Information, which came via VK27TR. The most important point to come from your survey is the need for some semblence of order to be arranged for 6 metre net operation.

whether AM or FM. That will have to do for this time, there is ulte a lot more which could be written, but due to the time leg at the moment, much of the news for the month: "The way some people find fault you'd thing there was a reward" The Voice in the Hills

STOP PRESS 432 MHz RECORD BROKEN

On Sunday, 2nd February 1975, a two way contact on 492 Mbly was successfully com by Wally VKEWG in Albany and plated Les VK3ZBJ in Melbourne. Signals were not strong, Welly used CW and Les SSB. Dis-tance about 2440 km. That now narrows down the field for anyone wishing to extend the distance further: eastern Victoria o Tesmania remain about the tast chances unless someone makes it to New Zeeland Good work boys, let us hope it acts as en

tive to others to get on 432 MHz. BIG 144 MHz OPENING For days the 2 metre enthusiasts in VK3, VK5 and VK6 have been wetching the build up of conditions suitable for long distance metre operation. Finally with a zone of high pressure extending right across south ern Australia conditions came right First Albany working into VK5, also Aub VK6XY Then Bob VK68T was noted working Harry VK3XI on Channel B FM, and later VK5ZOO Saturday conditions continued good right through to mid-day, then Sunday evening produced its share of signals together with the 432 MHz record. Bob VK68E who deserves some reward through-keeping 40 metre schedules almost daily with VKSZK and VXSLP, worked 10 VKS and 16 VKS stations on 144,190 SSB for a total of 67 costacts which is a pretty good effort. Bob commented that signals were up to 5 x 9, best centact being with VK3BMD who was operating mobile in Melbourne running 20 walts PEP to a five-eighth wavelength whis! That's hauling them in! Bob also added that VKS had been worked via the Albany Ch. 2 repeater. Sunday evening contacts to Bob from VK5 were not over strong, but Garry VKSZK and Peter VKSZPS were able to work him. I had to listen to the others as Bob was too week here. Gerry coremented that it was interesting that it was possible to work Bob on 2 metres but not 20 or 40 metres. So much for VHF

So that's the reward of the diversified concators. Those confined to repeater contration miss out on so much. Even after many years on VHF I still get a shrill from worlding someone long distance away, with my own equipment, not that provided by someone else on a hill. And how very acmesces else on a hill. And how very interesting it becomes wetching the weather pettern emerge, firestly to note conditions were continued as a second continued to the continuent, restricting operation to those more invocatibly altoude none the continuent, perfocularly lit. Gambier and Victoria. LATEST ON BIOCHECHICE.

On 30/12 Chris VKSMC worked W8KPY on CW, received 448, sent 549. Heard K4IXC, then WeXPY salled on SSB, Chris received 4 x 4, sent 5 x 4. WEKPY heard for three consecutive periods of 2 minutes. Both Rom VKSAKC and Trever VKSNC present on those occasions On 21/1 heard 3 stations, but not well Antenna not always in right spot for moon position

Trevor VK5NC in Mt. Gambler with his 56 elements on 2 metres has heard the VK5MC echoss, also unidentified CW Ron WKSAKC has improved his control system for 1298 MHz, now hearing good echoes 3 dB above noise consistently

## contests

with Peter Brown VK4PJ Federar Contests Manager, G.P.O. Box, 638 B sbane Q16 4001

CONTEST CALENDAR 1 & 2 ARRL DX Phone 5 & 9 BERU CW MARCH YL-OM CW 15 & 16 ARRL DX CW 22 - 24 BARTS Spring RTTY 29 & 30 CQ WW WPX SSB APRIL 5 & 6 Polet (SP) 26 & 27 WAEDC RTTY CONTEST DETAILS

A small number of overseas radio associations send full details of the rules of their forthooming contests to the WIA and these usually arrive several months in advance of the contest date. it is not practicable to publish these rules and scoring tables in full as most would require a page of our journal. Most other information about DX contests is supplied by Frank W1WY, and this arrives by sirmed about the middle of the month Unfortunately the detailed info generally refers to contests which are to be held during the next calendar month. As copy for our magazine for that month must be with the Editor by the third of the preceding month it is frequently not possible to include as much contest information as some readers would like. However, If you send a SASE to me at Box 67. East Melbourne, 3002, the datarequired will be forwarded to you. 1974 WPX BOO REBULTS

Frank, WIWY sent these out by airmail togs with the following comment, "Not a bad showing

OCEANIA -	Australia			
VICIAOP	A	111,006	335	18
VK2OW	A	8,358	71	4
VK4VU	A	274,247	842	13
VX4FH		182,932	530	111
VK4AK		21,375	110	7
VKSNO	Ä	351,770	838	14
VKSMF		74,980	285	
VKEXT	εï	31,977	323	- 8
VK38M	21	23,779	193	- 4
VK4PJ		714	18	- 1
VK2APK	14	229,824	479	17
VKSLK	14	99,975	281	12
	MEMORIA			

Only two logs to hand up to this date, 28th January. A VKS has 98 QSOs on 2 metres and 43 on 6 metree. A VK4 well north of Briebane has 225 QSDs on 6 metree. There are some letters to hand and a few of them comment on the very limited opportunities amateurs in the Brisbans, Wagga and Melbourne areas have to use 6 metres. Another refers to similar restrictions in an area where TV Channel SA limits 2 metre operation. It is also suggested that the contest runs for

the year for VHF working, and that to score accurately one needs to be a mathematician with a very good at as supplemented by detailed road maps of the various states. Then, if you have those qualifications and the equipment, there is the time necessary to calculate the distance of each QSO. Fortunately most writers, while being critical, also include constructive suggestions. However, all have stated that they enloyed the

Well, I would not attempt to draft new rules for this Contest as it seems that special sections must be carefully defined. With that in mind I have requested that a committee be set up to "over-haul" all the contest rules and scoring tables. Recommendations can then be made and you, the contestants, should have the opportunity to com-

## BEAU 1975

A reminder that this contest will run from 1200Z Saturday, 8th March to 1200Z Sunday 9th March. Rules so notified in AR for February. Trophy

**RESULTS BERU 1974** 1776 VK3ZC B16 YKZB-IL

CRS 195 who receives the Receiving Rose Be VK silver medallion VK28PM, Bronze VKSR1

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The award a available for all CW, all phone or mixed modes. The fee for the award is 7 IRCs The address for application is:

Post box 3773 Acore, Ghena.
Regularments: Confirmed contacts are re-5 different BG1 stations using at least two

hands ER KWANE The award is evailable to Ilconsed amateurs and

shortwave listeners (on a "heard" basis).
Contacts with 5N stations are valid.
Do not send QSL cards. A list, showing full details of the contacts should be certified by the

Awards Manager of a National Society.
The award is issued for all CW, all phone and mixed modes.

The fee for the award is 5 IRCs. The address for applications is:

Nigerian Amateur Radio Society, Post Box 2873

Lagos, Nigeria. Requirements, Confirmed contact with 5 different 5N stations are required. P.A.C.C.

The award is available to licensed smalleurs. Contacts on and after 1st June 1945 are valid.

Do not send OSLs. A list showing full details of the contacts should be certified by the Awards Manager of a National Society.

The fee for the award is 7 IRCs. The address for application is.
Traffic Buresu VERON, C/a PAGAAC

Post box 1150 Arehem, Holland Requirements: Confirmed contacts are required

with 100 different PA/PI stations. Suckers are available for 200 and 300 contacts. Spacial Note: VERON organises an internations

PACC contest every year during the last weekend in April. Contacts made during this contest count without QSL cards provided that logs have been submitted by the PA/PI station for checking

DARWIN BULLEY FORD The following donations to the WIA's Darwin Retlef Fund for members who lost equipment in Darwin arising from Cyclone Tracy

are acknowledged with grateful thanks List No. 1 - Total \$92 VK6CW \$10 VK2ZHP \$20 UNTHE 210

VX7.111 27 The Executive

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## Letters to the Editor

Any opinion expressed under this headir is the individual opinion of the writer ar does not recessarily coincide with that the Publishers

#### The Editor. Dear Sir.

I would appreciate it if you would make the tellowing matter as widely known as possible.

Until January of this year, I had the call sign WICEST and had been a member of the WIA for 15 years. In May 1973, I had a severe heart stack, and was in the hospital four times in the

I mailed I would have to retire from my profession, and gave up all my gear to various clubs. I surrendered my licence and resigned from the WIA reluctantly. I went to live in a armail unit where serial systems were impossible. lay problem is that for a few past years there is a very active pirate who uses my call sign VXSHT, and for several years I have been getting a flood of DX cards for contacts he has made in my name. He has the nerve to use my name and address (former) and I have been grasily ember-rageed by his activity. I would like it known that researchy his activity. I would like it known that VK2HT is now no longer a legitimate call eigh. I would appreciate it if anyone can catch this pirate and let me know, and I shall take legal action against him. He is atill vary active. Re-cently, I had an official letter from Germany asking for details of a OSO a month or two ago, as they were auspictous about the call. I have not made were suspictous about the call. I have not made a call on the air for nearly two years. It anyone can supply me with information I would be very glad to take atops. The pirate is very familiar with my, or what was my setup, and is very active. Is there any very that he can be nailed and atopped, as he is attill active and cards especially from Japan are coming in?

Thanking you for all the years of good fellowship and wishing you well with many new recruits in

(Rev.) Harry Harris 5/28 Etonville Parade Croydon, NBW, 2132

The Editor

Amateur Radio Dear Bir,

Townsville Pacific Festival Results for Contest. Re the abovementioned contest results, it would be appreciated if a correction could be published.
In the published results I omitted to include the score for VK1VP.
Score for VK1VP was 150 points in section 'A

and was the highest some for VK1

R. F. Kearney, VK4HE

Queensland Contest Manager

## The Editor, Amateur Radio Dear Sir,

In raply to the letters in AR January 1975 about the increase in ficence fee, a number of points need to be discussed:-

 Mer. Morris Implies that amateurs are paying considerably less than the "poor" commercial operator Unfortunately as an amateur I cannot use my radio for the purpose of gaining income nor my radio for the purpose of gaining income nor can I cleam the licence and equipment ceats as a tax deduction thus effectively halving the cost of these items, kly radio actually COSTS me \$12 whereas the majority of commercials would be savings costs or sotually making money from helr operations.

2. If Mr Walkins had been a complainer he

would have, like me, received a latter from the PMG which clearly illustrated how little our politireas which casery illustrated now little our politi-cal mesters realise what amateur radio is and what contribution it makes to the community. The important crisis when it comes will most surely be settled against us in the present climate of opinion. We must be sufficiently politically aware to realise that without continual repre tation of our interests to parliamentarians and bureaucrats we will most certainly be ignered as insignificant and ineffectual. However, it we choose apresent our case at every turn ag

then we will evoid losing the majority of the so beloved by Mr. Morris. These same commi cle's realise something amateurs do not, they are prepared to employ considerable monies on direct and indirect lobbying . . even to the extent of fostering a feeling of helplessness in the ranks

of amateurs perhaps Amateurs must stop being ostriches. Politicians held the power of life or death over our hobby and will not just go away if we are "good boys" and keep quiet when we are disabanissed. There are plenty of others waiting in the wings to knock the ensteur and take over our frequencies for the purposes of commercial profit.

Yours taithfully. R. Martin Luther VK4VU

## Editor, Ameteur Radio

Dear Bir, With reference to Eric Jamisson's VHF/UHF column of December AR I wish to take leave with several of his inferences.

I cannot believe it is the opinion of the bulk

of SSB tuneable stations in the 6 metre band that of SSB tuneable stations in the 6 metre band that M stations, thusable or orpatial locked, about be excluded from the first 300 life or the band. He was a state of the state on 6 metres occupied a dem site more bandwidth than a well modulated AM rig. Perhape some operators without the ability or interest to homebrew a rig, even tack the ability to operate com-mercial equipment To infer that the first 300 tolar of the 8 metre band is the preserve of 858 turns able operations amacks of self indulosmos that is hardly compatible with the ethics of operations in the VHF/UHF spectrum as I under-

t. A well known fact is that a certain percentage of emeteurs are well heeled and can afford com-marcial SSS souloment. Eric may well be one within this group but I sincerely hope his indulg-ent sentiments for that group are not representative of that group. A great percentage of the amateur fraternity is comprised of the lower income group capacity for investment in equipment is Rmited to homebrew ex-commercial or disposals type equipment very little of which is 888 I find Intolerable the inference that this group should not pursue their hobby with the equipment available to them in the spectrum not specifically designated

ad them - those of tolerance and encountme

As DX is, generally, first worked within the first \$00 kHz of 6 metres, as the MUF slowly arises, to suggest that only SSB stations should be first (as they invariably are enytiow) to work it would be to deny a section of our fraternity the very rience to which they sapire. I remind Eric that AM stations which perennially utilize the 6 metre band help justify our irrequency allocation. Many SSS stations only work the frequency during

the DX "sesson" the DX "season"

I consider we should actively encourage all modes of operation anywhere in the tunesble sections of 6 metres and can do without the percohial attitudes that frequently prevail.

P. Pendlebury, VK3ZAA

#### The Editor. Ameleur Redio Dear Str.

for other services.

My thanks to you for giving me an opportunity of raplying to the above latter, My Srst reaction efter rushing to look at what I had actually written and heaving a sigh of relief, was to ignore the letter if only because of inaccuracies and mis-interpretations, but efter a couple of days decided the best interests of "VHF — An expanding world" would be served by a reply.

I would suggest readers at this stage get out December 1974 "Amateur Radio" and look at what I did write on page 19, the VHF page, under the sub-heading "The DX is coming" Hering done this, now read the letter from VK3ZAA again. Now anybody can possibly dream up the impli-cation that I advocate AM stations should operate bove 62.3 MHz is beyond me. Them is no mention of AM, not even by implication, at all until halfway down the paragraph when I say "If you are running AM, please see your stotal is well mode-

I suggested operating above \$2.3 MHz for crystal (ocked transmissions simply because a station up there should be in the clear "when the band is there should be in the clear "when the band is wide open" and being in that region such a station would be less thatly to finish on look of someone else, and botter shile to be worked by others. Good greaft What should I sely? The soggestion I made for three type of conditions in perfectly and the should be should be supported to the sound of the should be something to perfectly the sound of the should be something to the sound of the should be something to the sound of the should be something to the sound of the sound of something to something the sound of something the sound of something the sound of something somethin sound — if VK3ZAA wants to operate 10 kHz inside the band or elsewhere, crystal locked Ali or \$58 that's ok by me - but any inability to move up or down a few lots to get into the clear under crowded conditions will certainly preclude many contacts.

Mr Pendlebury comments at the start of his second paragraph that he doesn't believe it to be second paragraph that he doesn't believe it to be the opinion of the built of 858 operators that All stations should be excluded from the first 300 létic of the band. Of course it wesn't. Who said it wes? I did not flow anyone can read that out of what I wrote is beyond no. How do you righly to such wild statements? If he can read that out of my writings what hope have I of convincing him of anything

I note Mr. Pendiebury received his cell sign is lete 1972. Perhaps he is young, and rather inexperienced. If so, time will help this situation. if he is of mature years then he would be well advised to study more carefully written world written words before rushing into print. When he has experienced one of those days "with the band wide open" as they were some years ago, but not so much of recent time, he will surely better understand the ressoning behind my suggestion.

To accuse me of parochial attitudes and other verious inferences is pulle levelable. I queen there are many who have read my notes in various publications over the years who would back my completely when I state I have always believed I have adopted a most tolerant and understanding attitude towards all on the various bands - La steering a middle course, and with as little bias as possible. I cannot remember when the Editor last

Yes, Mr Pendlebury, I do have a few items of commercial equipment, but I have a tot of homebrew too, I guess there would not be a lot of ama sure around in VK who over the years have constructed more equipment than it, ranging from AM, DSB, SSB and FM for both HF and VHF Various converters, 6 and 2 metra transverters, 432 MHz iransverter, power amps., linear amps., portable and mobile equipment SWR meters, noise bridges, antenna tuners, antennas, test equipment, sower supplies, and so I could go on Perhaps you will grant me the privilege to own a few pieces of commercial equipment now. My opera-tional interests are surely diversified when you know that I operate 160 to 10 metres SSB. 6 and 2 metree AM, SSB, FM and CW, 432 MHz AM, 888 and CW, and before long on 576 MHz too. Ap parently in your words this makes me self-indulgent, lacking in tolerance and encouragement. At least I do my share to keep the bands occupied by operating in all segments and using all mostes Are you playing your part to keep the bands

I conclude with a relevant thought from the writings of Bertrand Russell . . "The degree of one's emotion varies inversely with one's knowledge of the facts - the less you know the holter you get".

73, Eric Jamieson, VK5LP

# solar flux and sunspots -

Frank Hine VK2QL 30 Abbotsford Road, Homebush, 2140

Arrangements have been made by Frank VKICK, with the tonospheric Prediction Service, for the daily ituz number for the preceding week to be included in the weekly broadcast over VKZWI.

A word of warning though is necessary. This
Solar Flux number is not related to the school aun anot number, but for the avid DXer, this flux number can be used as a guide to propagation conditions that have taken place, and one can form an opinion of what may be expected in the

future. For those who have the means of listening to WWV, this Bux number is given every day at 18 minutes pest the hour

An indication of how this flux number could be used was the weekend of the CW section of the VK/2L contest when sxeelient conditions prevailed until the Magnetic disturbance round 12002 on the

The flux number could have been used as a guide for the CW section of the WW contest when again the flux number rose, with a quiet sun, to almos 100 after slowly climbing from the mid 80s. During this contest the 28 MHz band was wide open to all parts of the world.

At present there are 2 theories being advanced on the current cycle. One is that it will follow approximately the normal 11 year cycle, and on aproximately the normal 11 year cycle, and on going back to the sunspot number records Frash has since 1854, it could be about the middle of next year. However, mathematicians have produced a strong case to indicate that the bottom to time will not be reached until the year 1977.

The LP.S. have advised VK2QL that one aun spot of the new cycle has been sighted for a short period of a few hours only. When nearing the bottom of a cycle, it is possible to tell whethe

						e reached		sunspot I	belon	gs to the	10 blo	the nev	r cycle,
14	H, and	f then	plummett	ed to rou	nd the 7	D MARK.	bu	( II 18 too	enske	ilved to co	ver in t	hie repar	1.
	DMM.	75.	MANUAL PROPERTY.	W 400	COTT MINISTER	MONTHLY	MEAN	VALUES	OF	<b>SUNSPOT</b>	NUMBE	RE AT	ZURICH
¥	mer	Jan		Miner	Age	May	Jee	July	Amp	Bap	Oat	May	Dec
21	954	8.4	5.6	4.2	3.4	3.7	4.2	5.4	7.2	7.8	7.9	8.4	12.0
- 11	958	14.2	18.4	18.5	25.4	28.0	35.1	40.1	46.5	86.6	64.4	73	61.0
11	100	88.6	98.4	108.2	118-8	127.4	126.9	145.5	149.6	151.4	158.0	159.9	164,3
11	167	170.2	179.2	174.3	181.0	185.5	187.8	191.4	194.4	197.2	199,5	200.8	200.0
- 11	956	198.0	301.0	201.2	196.6	191.4	188.8	184.7	184.9	183.8	182.2	180.8	180.6
11	950	178.6	176.8	173.6	188.4	184.4	101.4	155.8	151.2	146.2	141.0	137.2	132.8
10	990	129.6	125.0	121.8	119.8	117.0	114.0	108.6	102.4	87.8	82.6	87.4	63,6
10	961	89.2	74.8	8.80	64.3	80.0	55.8	89.1	52.4	52.3	51.8	50.9	48.7
10	162	46.2	41.8	38.8	38.4	38.2	38.3	39.8	35.0	32.7	30.8	30,0	29.8
11	163	29.4	29.8	29,8	29.0	26.6	20.2	27.7	27.2	26.9	26.0	23.8	21.3
11	164	19.5		15.4	12.7	10.8	10.2	10.4	10.4	10.0	9.7	10.3	11.2
11	300	12.0		12.7	18.6	14.7	15.3	15.4	18.5	17.2	19.4	21.0	23.9
11	200	27,0	20.6	\$3.6	36.4	39.5	43.3	45.8	56.4	82.7	66.6	69.0	71.2
11	167	73.1	78.4	79.4	81.5	84.2	87.8	93.8	94.6	84.4	94.0	95.2	100.0
10	968	102.2	102.7	104.8	107.4	107.8	107.0	105.2	104.8	107.1	109,6	110.0	109.4
11	108	166.5	107.6	106.3	103.0	103.2	102.6	106,1	106,8	105.8	104.5	105.0	105.6
10	B70	108.2	108.7	198.8	108.6	108.1	105,1	103.3	98.5	95.4	91.0	87.2	81.6
1	971	77.8	75.2	71.6	68.0	85.0	63.9	65.5	85,0	66.4	87 1	67.6	69.9
11	972	76.8	71.2	72.4	73.4	72.9	70.4	68.1	65.4	82.D	80.4	58.5	54.8
11	973	50.4	100	43.8	42.2	40.3	38.6	37.6	36.4	34,8	33.2	32.6	32.6
11	974	34.2	36.2	35.0	35.7								

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## Commercial Kinks

with Ron Fisher VK3OM 3 Fairview Ava., Gigr Waverley 3150

This morum it's back to our old friend the FT200

a few puick and easy hints First it's over to Lional Swa n VK2CS "Ever since I have had my FT200, the associated

FP200 power supply has had a terrifying metallic "Clunk" every time it was switched on, due apparently to the momentary short circuit in the torm of the discharged filter capacitors. In fact during that time. I have blown the 5 amp fuse in the power transformer primary twice due parently to no other reason than that the switch losed at the instant of maximum current.

During the week I had a rush of brains and

a CZII thermister in the transformer primary circuit - and the saints be pre-sed, there is now only a barely percept ble grunt when the power is switched on. There are many types of thermistors svallable, but the C2II seems to be onlimum for most transpeivers athough the higher power types may need a CZ12"

Lional's idea is certainly worth the time it would take. Many anateurs have had trouble with diodes blowing in the FP200. The thermistor would no doubt sess the strain on them too Receiver cross modulation is a problem that

seems to effect some smalleurs more than others. Over the years I have had no serious trouble with the FT200 in this regard but if you happen to live in an area where broadcast signals are strong on 40 metres, here are a few simple

The harmonic producing diode (D301) in the output of the crystal calibrator circuit is the amber one suspect as it is connected to the receiver input at all 1 mes Fortunately, there is a spare set of switching contacts on the receive/operate/calibrate control.

and this can be utilized in two different ware. The first and easiest way is to route the outs line of the calibrator through the switch necessary to use a small diameter coexist cable for this and in order that the capacity of the cable does not appear across the input of receiver, insert a 10 pF ceramic capacitor at the junction of the cable and the receiver input. The second second is a little more applied to the first applying a bias to the diode to effectively cut it out of circuit. Four new components are needed nius a amail amount of re-wiring. Needed are two 47K ohm resistors and two 4790 pF ceramic capacitors. First locate the 9 volt connection on the Rec/Op/Cal and bridge to the spare section so that it connects to the moving arm in the

From the junction of C306 and D301 connect From the junction of Calon and Daul connect a 47K resistor to ground Connect one of the .0047 mF between Daul and Daul New connect a 47K resistor from the junction of the 4700 pF capacitor and the diode to the moving arm of the Rec/Op/ Cal switch and bypass the switch and of the 47K resistor to ground with another 4700 pF capabilor. This completes the modification.

Many of the older SSB transceivers lacked a means of varying the drive under tune-up conditions. Hext month we will discuss means of incorporating a drive control in Swan and similar rige.

with David Hell VK3ZOH

in the middle of March the author will be attending an AMSAT meeting in Washington which will ex-plore the roles of the National groups in future satellites. Up for consideration by the meeting will be a new Project Australis command system together with an integrated RTTY Telemotry/ Codestors system. If present plans work out theat sub-existens will be part of a future joint Australia. AMSAT CANADA satellite project designed to provide a continuation of the low orbit (a la Osca 6 and 7) programme into the late 1970s. Members are invited to write to Project Australia with augons for future satellite projects. Any ould reach me before my departure on March

ne difficulties were exp ced in late Janua Some difficulties were experienced in late January and early February with Oscar 6 commands affecting Oscar 7. At this limb the satellites were virtually in the same apot in the sky and despite precustors some of the dozens of commands a day fired at Oscar 6 caused unscheduled mode changing in Oscar 7 We apologise for any incom once caused but these problems were really out of our control.

DELIGIT E THE HITCHES OSCAR 7 REF ORBITS MARCH MARCH

			Long				Long
Day		Time Z		Day		Time Z	
1	10849	125.24	68 7	1		108.23	6.8
2		25.18		2	1332	7.58	
3	10874	120.10	67.4	3	1345		
4	10886		52.4	4	1357	1 18	50.0
8		114 96		5	1370		63.6
6	10911	14.89	51,1	- 6	1383	149.75	77 1
7		108.82		7	1395		62.0
	10938	9.75	49.8		1408	143.37	75.5
	10949	104 68	83.6	9	1420		60.4
10		4.51		10		136 99	
11	10974		623	11	1445	38 32	58.8
12		184.47			1458	130.61	72.3
13		54.40			1470	29.94	57 2
14		149.33		14	1483	124 23	
15	11024			16	1495	23.56	\$5.8
15		144.19			1508	117 85	89.1
17		44,12			1520		
18		139.05				111.47	
19	11074		87.1	19	1545	10.80	
20	11087				1555	106.08	65 9
21		33 84		21	1570		50.8
22		128.77		22	1583		84.3
23	11124		54 6	23	1598		77.9
24		123,63		24	1608	53.32	62 7
25	11149			25	1621	146.61	76.3
28	11182			26	1633		61.1
27	11174		52.0	27	1546	140.23	
28	11187	113.35			1658	39.58	59.5
29	11199		50.7	29	1671	133.84	73.1
30		108 21		30	1883		57.9
31	11224	8.14	49.4	31	1696	127.46	71.5

## Intruder Watch

with Alf Chandler VK3LC 1536 High Street, Glen Ins 3148

A few of the successes that the Intruder Walch achieved may be interesting to Members, but firstly a ples may be more appropriate. I have a rather comprehensive report on the Broadcasters in the 3.5 MHz band emanating from Indonesia, but need nore information. On comparing notes with the U.S. I find that the frequencies given are compatible with frequencies on which Observers in the U.S. can hear A0 carriers, but cannot get enough strangth for dentification. I quote from a communication from K6KA — "We need help, perticularly from Reg or 3 because it involves tropical and southern reports where we can NOT, repeat NOT, get anything at all here during the winter

I have been hearing only a very few signals on 14 MHz so that we are down to practically nothing, but if we know from southern hemisphere reports that a certain signal is coming through we can watch for it and just as soon as we find it we can alert It to FCC and get some action. This has

proved extremely useful Now for nome successes

1 A harmonic on 14240 from the BBC relay in Johnne, Melavaia, was causing a lot of interference. The RSGB became interested and got the engines to suppress the 2nd harmonic down to -790B and we haven't heard t since 2. We complained about a harmonic from a station on Okinawa on 14330 kHz and they fixed

that 3. On 14715 the Voice of America station in the Philippines was heard and reported by one of my Observers. I subsequently reported it to the U.S. and the engineers cured the spurious. An intereating phenomenon occurred here. It was found that two closely located transmitters were interacting to produce the spurious - the harmonic of one and the fundamental of another transmitter were mixing to propagate a signal on 14515 kHz.

 A spurious signal (A3) on 14231.7 liftz took a long time to track down. We eventually found it to be in Thailand By Amatour methods we ran it down to a broadcast station of the local television company at the airport at Bangkok. The company didn't want to replace the old transmitter because they hoped it would stand up for a little longer but by persuasion through their engineers it was

replaced and the envirous cured replaced and one spierrore so-our There are many more I could recount, but spece does not permit. You will remember in a previous series about ICMI in Youodiania, and TCX in Turkey It is by co-operation between Observers and between Ameleur Societies that the best work hax been done, in other words BY AMATEUR METHODS

Reference the Malak (Russian) lammer on 7030 7040 kHz jamming the Paking broadcast on 7035 kHz the signal strength from that Jammer has been measured in Los Angeles and is 2000 microvolts (that's two millivolts) that is an awful lot of signal and no wonder it is so troublesome here Austrelia

## 20 Years Ago with Ron Fisher VK3OM

MARCH 189

Our Waning Heritage The Editorial for March 1955 looked at our use or perhaps our non-use of the emajour bands. One parsoned was significant To protect what's left it has been said that we cannot now expect to rely on the two larger world sociaties to represent Australia at the next International Conference - when ever that might be We must have our own representative there'

Only one main technical article appeared however it was a case of quality rather than quantity Eric Cornellus VK6EC, remembered of course to his superb series on television a short time earlier, wrote on "Wobbulators - Sweep Generators The late Don Knock VK2NO supplied a few Interesting "Hints and Kinks" Six metre men ware having fun. The VHF column, "Fifty Megacycles and Above" reported DX contacts between VR2CG in Pell and VK6HK in Perth. FK8AB listening only, heard VK2. 4, 5, 21, and VR2, while VK12M or Mecquerie (sland heard many New Zealand ste-

The Short Wave Listener Section renorted on p'ations heard, activities of members plus a few technical ideas including the perennial 'S' meter circult.

## Hamads

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EMI 302 Wave Form Monitor, \$40.00. RCA Video
Switcher 3 x 9 inputs, \$50.00 Various other TV
equipment All tems ONC 0 Stokes, VK2ZPM,
QTHR Ph. (62) 476.2304.

2 Phillips Battery Eliminators with vain are gasser, Alao Type 'S' power supply, in good order J E Mackle, VK2ZDM, Hillston

Geloso Transmiller and PSU G4/229 with motching speaker, mike, manual, 80-10 Mx SSB — 260 W PEP, CW 225 W, AM 120 W. As new condition \$350.00. Miss F Wookey, 158 Kilgour St. Geelong Ph (052) 21 2674

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Yessu-FL2008 Transmitter, in excellent working order 80 to 10m. Complete with matching microphone and 10 new spars valves, \$160.00 VX6HE. OTHR Solid State Television Vidicon Comera, complete with fast scan to slow scan sampling converter

for SSTV operation. Home brew but very neel construction and small (n size V dicon nearly new and complete with lens, \$100.00. VK5QV, QTHR Ph. (08) 282 5152 Fower 25 ft., single section Hills, 10 in triangle, \$15. Hills 10 el 2m Yagi \$7 CDR rolator TR-44

with indicator and 240/110V trans, \$40 VK2AQW, OTHER Ph (02) 448 3838 104 Copies QST, 1965-1973, some complete years. good condition. Any reasonable offer accepted Also RSQB "Rediscommunication" 1965-1972, 101

copies some complete years good condition, price as above VK4MY QTHR. Eddystone \$88A Receiver, ham bands 1,6-30 MHz. 100 kHz calibrator with data sheet, price \$150.00.

VKANY OTHE VKAMY QThm.
FT DX 560, Immediate condition, little used, pro-fessionally modified to better than FT DX 4010 specia. Incl. 160 metres fan, CW Sider, noise blanker, noise limiter, full matering of HT, screan current and volts, SWR, 8495, FY 465, estavnal VFO as new in carton STD. Matching external Current and volts, SVPK, S495, PY 491, external VFO as new in carton \$110. Matching axiemat apeaker, 325. Megmum Stx RF speech processor suitable FT DX 400, 401, 560, as new, little use, S135. The lot \$740. VKSARZ, 12 Explorers Court, Vermont South, 3133. Ph (03) 232 8492 AR7 all coil boxes, \$80. Many aerle, tuning

## OAK switches and ex sircraft gear Phone 888-9054 VK22KV, 41 Tories St., Kurnel, 2231. BENEFACO.

SSS HF Sands Transceiver, suitable for AC and DC operation. W Mershel see, VK2ADZ, 28 Probert Ave., Griffith, N.S.W., 2680. Ph. (269) 62 3718 A.H. Kindly Ameteur to Coach keen but busy prospect at my QTH or yours to pass AOCP in August 1975
Agree to pay chacking see for good no nonsense
knowledgeable approach Offers to Stephen Philips, Macedon Court, Nunewading Ph (03) 878 8336 S. G. Philips

Service Manuals for Pyn Translator FM Ranger model PTCA 8002 TWL s.d Vinter Ventage MTR 19 R. J. Clevel Linton. Bombela, N.S.W. 2353 Circuit Diagram for No 19 wireless set wanter John Sparkes, 105 Daglish St., Wembley WA, 6014. Ph (092) 81 6030

Heavy duty commercial 12 volts DC Mobile Power Supply Unit to suit Swan 350, 800 vo.4 at 500 ms. etc. etc. Price and apecs to VK4OV, 4 Topaz St., Mount tas. O. 4825. Ph. (077) 43 2806.

# Economical Mobile/Base Station FT-201



## \* Built-in AC power supply (DC optional)

- \* 260 Watts peak SSB 180 Watts CW & 80 Watts AM
- \* Factory sealed, solid state VFO with 1 KHz readout \* Effective Noise Blanker, threshold adjustable, for elimina-
- tion of noise spikes

FEATURES

- \* Built-in front panel adjustable VOX \* Automatic break-in CW operation with sidetone
- ±5 KHz receiver clarifier
- \* Built-in WWV/JJY reception

## TECHNICAL DATA

## GENERAL

Frequency Range: 3.5-4.0 MHz. 7.0-7.5 MHz, 14.0-14.5 MHz, 21:0-21.5 MHz, 28.0-30.0 MHz, WWV 15 MHz (receive only).

Mode: Selectable USB, LSB, CW or AM Frequency Stability: Within 100 Hz during any 30 minute period after

warm-up. Not more than 100Hz with 10% line voltage variation Calibration Accuracy: 2 KHz maxi-

mum after 100 KHz calibration. Backlash: Not more than 50 Hz. Antenna Impedance: 50 to 75 Ohm

unbalanced nominal Circuitry: 32 Transistors, 9 FET, 6

Integrated Circuits, 52 Diodes and 3 Tubes Power Requirement: 100/110/117/

200/220/234 V AC, 50/60 Hz, 380 Watts maximum, or 13.5V DC nominal, 67 A for standby, 0.7 A for receive (Heater OFF) and 24 A for transmit Size: 340(W) x 153(H) x 285(D) m/m. Weight: 15 Kg.

## RECEIVER

Sensitivity: 0.3 µV for 10 dB Noise plus Signal to Noise Ratio on 14 MHz. Selectivity: 2.4 KHz nominal bandwidth at 6 dB down, 3.8 KHz at 60 dB down on SSB. CW and AM, 600 Hz nominal bandwidth at 6 dB down, 1.2 KHz at 60 dB down with optional CW filter. 600 Hz nominal bandwidth at 6 dB down, 12 KHz at 60 dB down with optional AM filter

Harmonic & Other Spurious Response: Image Rejection better than 50 dB Internal Sourious Signal below 1 µV equivalent to antenna input.

Automatic Gain Control: AGC threshold nominal 6 µV. Selectable AGC time constant, fast or slow. Fast attack time 3 milli-second and slow attack

\* Adjustable carrier level for tune-up and Novice operation \* Indicator lights for internal VFO and clarifier operation

\* All mode operation - SSB, CW, & AM \* Fast or slow receiver AGC

\* Built-in internal crystal control provision and dual VFO adaptor

\* Built-in final cooling fan \* Complete line of compatible accessories for flexible

station design

time 5 milli-second. Fast release time 0.35 second and slow release time 2 seconds Audio Noise Level: Not less than 40

dB below 1 Watt. Audio Output: 3 Watts to internal or

external speaker at 4 Ohm (monedance Audio Distortion: Less than 10% at 3 Watts output.

## TRANSMITTER

Input Power. 260 Watts PEP on SSB, 180 Watts on CW at 50% duty cycle and 80 Watts on AM, (Slightly lower on 10 meter 1 Microphone: 50 K Ohm dynamic type.

Carrier Suppression: -40 dB Sideband Suppression: -50 dB Spurious Radiation: -40 dB

Distortion Products: -30 dB. Frequency Response. 300 Hz to 2700

Final Tube: 6JS6C x 2.



ELECTRONIC 60 Shannon St., Box Hill North. Vic., 3129 SERVICES ...

#### va e, 3172 927G. J. R. Gillard, B. Mismi Courf. Bendigo. 3550 OUPPASLAND VK449\_K H Smith 17 Setton Avenue, Clerifield. Nyhula, "Forests Lodge" Douglas Road, Port Doug'as, 4871 40H—C R Ham 20 Affred St. Charleville, 4470 46I—J. E Spencer, Station Burnaede Road, Nambour, Postel PS 1712, Nambour, 4580 ROUTH AUSTRALIA VK5QZ-E. B. Gilddon, 31 Hillside Ave., Highbury. 6089 J. Pswelczyk, F/23 Cartlidge 515 MM North Road, Elizabeth, 5112 J Blee, 18 Nortalk Ave., Fulham Gardens, 5024 M. Wallis, Lot 9,Quintreti Road, Virginia 5120 7 Mitcham Avenue, Lower szer-R. Battilans, 7 Mitchem 5062 J. Lenny, 5 Wells View, 5083 rescent, Valley 5ZZA-B SBO-A. E. Williams, 33 May rene Ottower 5013 SFV-V Cemence, 21 Thompson Ave., Salisbury

32YO-P S Co'lins, 5 Van-Wyk Court, Spring-

(continued from July, 1974)

Road, Blackwood. 528-E. B. Stephenson, 1 Emily Ave., Clapham, 5ZOF-G C. Adame, 4 Willowie St., Eden Hills, sasa 5ZPC-P Clymanos, 21 Thompson Ave., Salisbury Downs, 5109 WESTERN AUSTRALIA

5SF-M H Wood, 22 Bloomfie d Cres., Elizabeth

E. Gilas Clark, 355 Shepherds Hill

BASA

Downs, 5108

Downs, 5112

VK6XK-B. A. Wheeler, Station: 1 Yatheree St., Newman, Postal P.O. Box 146, Newman 8753 6DR-J. G. Harmson, 3 Silverton Tox., Wittetton, 8155 SNY/P-M S Bertram, Station Portable; Postal. 26 Gloster St., Sublaco, 8008 6EM-S. E. Herrison, 18 Linton Place, Morley, SPR/T-R. T. Flaher, 16 Lindsey Way, Padbury,

-D M Maley, 18 Narrung Way, Nollamara, 6081 6NL--V. H Harris "Birkenhead", Lot 550 Scotsdale Rd. Denmark, 6333 6ZBC—G. J. O. Coles, Station 80 Parramaita Road Doubleview, Postal P.O. Box 184, Doublev ew 6018 6ZKO/T—P R Casper, Lot 51, Burrinjuck Road, Goossberry Hill, 6678 TAKBAHIR

MORTHERN TERRITORY VKSAC...A J. Kelso Captele Cook Hostel, Whylun-

buy Postal P.O Box 55, Nhutunbuy, 5797 8AJ-A. C Johnson, 2922 Knowles St., Jingilli, 5782 Gordon 3312 Thornton Crescent, 8ZRD-Dr Casuarina, 5792

CANCELLED STATIONS AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY VK1 GI-1 Grant non-payment SR-S. N. Graves not required 1ZPB-P S Bell not required NEW SOUTH WALES

VKZSRC Taree O.K. Youth Rad o Club, no longer 001-1780 2\_M-L M Wilson ron-payment 2YA L G Baker, no longer required 2ZXB F R O'Hare no longer required

2ZWF---B. J Foster non-payment 2AT/T—L Altman deceased 2IU—M J McConald non-payment 2ZGT—R C McGregor, not required

22RX-W. S. Baynes, non-payment 28P9-H. Pearson, non-payment 287F—M S. Hort, not regulated 2UG-R W Eagling, not required 2BZA-W. Senior, not required 2YBE-N C. Welstead, not required 2ZCW-J S. Webster, not required 2BVT-G Ulm, non-payment 2YD — T. D. Without con-payment 27WO-J. H. Howe, non-payment VICTORIA VK3DT-M. J. Rieper, transferred to New South

22YZ/T # J. Smith, not required

SXII-J. R. Oxiev, not renewed 3AZK—W D. Harepod, now VKSSR SAMY—M. J. Mainz, not renewed SRGO-R. N. Switt not received 38GO—R. N. Serri, not renewed 3YFJ—P. G. Niehoff, not renewed 3YFW—W G. McDermott, transfered to Queens-3YHJ-M. J. Rose, now VKSLT 32NW-L. R. Stewart, now VKSASW 3ZRO-R. W. Duckworth, now VKSAIC

3ZOW-J. L. Gras, transferred to New South SYGS-C. J. Clare, transferred to Queensland OTHERWISE VK4AG-A. J. Greenham, not renewed 4DS-De La Sella College Radio Club, dis-

4EJ-E. J. Chandler, deceased 40Y-J. C. A. Young, deceased 483-R E. S'ecsy, deceased 4PT-R H Cost, Iransferred to South Australia 4YU-G. C. Dillon, transferred to Victoria SOUTH AUSTRALIA VKSOM-J. L. Watts, not renewed WESTERN AUSTRALIA VK6RV-R. G. B. Vayohan, faft country, now in United Kingdom 6WK-T W. Ruse, not renewed

6ZAG-G. E. Waits, non-payment renewal fee 7405cama more terrore AUGUST, 1974 HEW STATUS AMSTRACIAN CARITAL TERRITORY

VK12SH-S. H. Neilsen, 6/86 Anzac Park, Campbell, 2801 NEW SOUTH WALES VK2DT-M. J. Rieper, 5 Cobbities St., Mosman.

2TZ-A. Roberts, 55 Windsor Rd., Kellyville, 2153 2WO-Wollongong University College Amateur Radio Club, Northfields Lane, Wollongong, 2500 2YD-T D. Whitnail, 195 Merco Ave., Panania 2AOB-J. T. Morgan, 3/83 Wentworth St., Rand-

2AOD--South Broken Hill Boys Club, Central Street Broken Hill, 2880 2AGK-H. J. Hathrill, 5/12 Bando Rd., Cronulle. 2BCU-L N. F Smith, 8 Dors Creek Road, Cooranbong, 2265 2BDE-E. R. Copper, c/- G. S. Bracewell, 38

wick, 2031

Corang Road. Westleigh, 2120 -M. Flynn, 10 Redmen Pde , Betmore. 21R2 2BZK--W. Lean, 3 Eighth St., Boolaroo, 2284 2CAB--R. G. Wright, P.O., Box 24, Coogee, 2034 ZYDD-D. J Grant, 3 Kapala Ave., Bradoury. ZYDP-P A. Dalton, 68 Unwin St., Bexiey, 2207 ZZWW/T-W A. Watkins, 154 Moulder Street, Orange, 2900

VIDYOUR VK3CC-C M. Cohen, 21 Bowen St., Chadstone 3148 3JY-L Sykes, 14 Ruskin St., Orbost, 3866 3KA-W J. Kirkhope, 271 High Street, Lower Yemplestowe, 3107 30V-P O'Shannessy, 19 Kilpatrick Ave., Shep parton, 3630

3PC-C R Fine, 1 Heyington Piece, Toorak 2142 3TI-R. S. Pearce 115 Panty Rd., Bundoora, 3083 3KI A Hurison 33 Rurke Rd North Fast Ivanhos, 3015 3AGA—J T Franklin 7 Bradford Ave , Kew, 3101

3AHS Harbour Trust Amsteur Radio Cub, P.
Weaver, Lot & Lockwood Rd . South Beigrave, 3160 C T Arnold, 8 Russe'l St., Camber-3AKG O. C. T. Arnold, 8 Russe'l St., Camber-well, 3124 3AQB-W Babb, 78 David Ave., East Kelor,

3BCO-R. W. Ball. 38 Soray St., Rosebud. 3939 3BEW-J. Baytele, 5/68 Kernot St., Spotswood, 3BHK-S. K. Bushell, 74 King Parade, Knoxfield, 3180

SYEC-P. J. McDoneld, 24 Higgins Ave., Sunbury, 3429 32 Burrindi Rd., South SYEL-D. Stuart. Caulifield, 3162 3ZQY—H. J. De-Daugd, 422 Upper Heldelberg Road, Heldelberg, 3084

SZVT-M. J. Atkinson, 8 Mark Court, Dandenong North, 3175 QUEENSLAND VK4AAB-S, N. Graves, 25 Churchiil St., Maryborough, 4850 J. Smith, 20 Tinglewood St., Kirwan,

Townsville, 4814 4AE-G. K. Williamson, 210 Grafton St., Calma. 4870 4CL-M. L. Barrett, Flat 4/8 Ridley Rt., Auchanflower, 4086 4UO-E. W. B. Wollen, Bunshine Motel Caravan

Site Elizabeth Ave., Ciontart, 4019 4ZEG-A. E Burge, 4 Jeogranda Drive, Albany Greek, 4035 4ZJK-J. H Bartlett, 84 Domoch Terrace, West End. 4101 4ZYA-L. G. Baker, Station: 34 Milichester Rd., Charters Towers, 4820: Postal c/. 10 Son Radio R.A.A.F Rass Townsville

4ZZZ-W. G McDermott, 10 Pinetends Street. Lawnton, 4501 4ZJZ-G J Clare, 42 Scherger St., Moorooks 4100 SOUTH AUSTRALIA

VKSIG-R. J W. Hester, 13 Lambeff St., Ceduna, 500-J. Klimes, 80 Marrett Drive, Ingle Farm 5098 sRv-R. H. Cost, 6 Warunda Ave., Sesview Downs 5049 5R2-D. L. Nestrom U1/28A Winchester Street

St Paters, 5069 5781.—P C. Bachli, 50 Birnle Avenue, Kensing-ton Park, 5068 5ZSL-L, H Smith, 68 Ways Road, Manningham 5080 WESTERN AUSTRALIA

# TASMANIA

VK7ZYZ/T--H. J. L. Smith, Station 425 Inversey

Mowbray Heights, Postal P.O. Box 9, Mowbray Heights, 7250 NORTHERN TERRITORY MIT

COCOS ISLAND VX9YT Wayne Warden Jnr., not known 'exact'y' on Island (Route 12, 704 Meadowb Bioprington, Indiana U.S.A. 47401) CHANGE OF ADDRESS

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY MEW SOUTH WALES

VKZKT-L. P Gerrity, 'Fbbi de'' Marine Dr Ben-netts Head, Forster, 2428 2NL-H. J. Freeman, 318 Maroubra Rd Maroubra,

2035

2ZK-W G Kirchner, Lot 3, Paterson Rd , Wood-

brook, 2333

v IIe 2321 2ADR-D W. Reed, 100/1 Bridge St. Muswell-



## HAM HEADQUARTERS!

# HF TRANSCEIVERS (we have used gear too)

YAESU FT101B 160/10mx AC-DC transceiver. Avi EX-STOCK at \$585 — YAESU EV-101B VEQ for FT101B — \$102

"AESU FT758 80w pep transceiver - \$245

-- AC power supply \$65, DC power supply \$75

TRIO TS-520 all band transceiver \$550

TRIO TS-520 all band transceiver \$550 — external VFO \$80 (6m and 2m transverters arriving soon!)

## 6 METRES

ICOM IC-60 fm 10 west mobile transceiver incl 2 channels \$235 ICOM IC-601 SSB transceiver incl AC pwr supply \$445

## 2 METRES

ICOM IC-22A fm 10w mobile transceiver incl 3 chs \$210 ICOM IC-21A fm 10w base/mobile transceiver incl 3 chs \$298

SEIWA SV-230 25w fm mobile for 2m incl 3 chs \$210

MULTI-7 10w 2m fm mobile transceiver incl 3 chennels \$210 KEN KP-202 hand-held 2m fm 2 watts incl 4 chs (40/50/1/4) \$150

- Niced chargers and niceds \$32 - stubby helical whip \$8.90

YAESU FT220 SSB/FM/CW solid state transceiver \$480

70 cm

(incl 1 channel, 435 00MHz)



SEIWA SU-710 fm mobile transceiver, complete \$298 ICOM IC-30 10w fm mobile transceiver \$370

## NOT HERE?

The gear you want may not appear on this page. VICOM can procure ANY amateur gear avi overseas (usually within 10 days) via our TELEX service. Try usl.

## 2 METRE DIGITAL VFO

ICOM DV-21 solid state can be interfaced with other geen

## RECEIVERS

TRIO QR-666 all band/mode communications receiver 170 KHz to 30MHz \$275 (kit \$230)

## POWER SUPPLIES

ICOM IC-3PA for ICOM mobile gear \$78

SPECIAL 12v 3 amp regulated supply from 240v \$28

VICOM 90-DAY WARRANTY ON ALL NEW PRODUCTS

RAI	⊂ A	N	<b>FENN</b>	A	BY /ICOM
	Model	Imp	Freq	VSWR	PRIC \$
BALUNS	BL-50A BL-70A	52 75	1 8 - 38MHz 1 8 - 38MHz	1.31	14.90 14.90
COAX SWITCHES (2 & 6 pos)	CS 2A CX-6A(A) CX-6A(8)	52 52 75	to 300MHz to 500MHz to 500 MHz	1.3 1 1 3 1 1.3·1	21.00 54.00 54.00
TRAP	III-N	52	7 to 28MHz	1.2:1	31.00
	AL48DXN	53	3.5 & 7MHz	1 2:1	31.00
	AL24DXN	52	7 & 14MHz	1.2-1	24.0
	A-4VPN	52	7MHz	1.2:1	24.0
	A-8VPN	52	3.5MHz	1,2:1	26.5
LISTENER	L1	75	3 to 30MHz	-	14.9
BALANCED FEEDER	BTF-1	800	-	-	12.0

## TEST GEAR

TRIO VT108 FET VOM 8 ranges 0.5 to 1.5kv, 11 meg Input. ohms 0.1 to 1000 meg, memory feture \$85 TRIO AG202A AUDIO GENERATOR covers 20Hz to 200 KHz 10v rms output, sine and sig wave, ext sync \$94 TRIO 75mm scope 20mm cm sens, dc to 1.5 MHz \$170

TRIO SG402 RF GENERATOR covers 100KHz to 30MHz \$76 D-60 FREQUENCY COUNTER including 2 matre prescaler

## ANT. ACCESSORIES

ME-11B SWR/PWR METER 3-150MHz \$22 ME-UA UHF POWER METER \$89 AS-GM GUTTER CLAMPS 2m \$7.50 SCALAR MOBILE WHIPS

M22 2m fibreglass \$7.50 (½w) M80 6m (ibreglass \$10.70 (½w) M21 2 m s.steel \$6.90 (½w) COAX 58U 45c per m

RB 2metre mast amp (144-146 or 146-148) \$32

## SPECIAL

VICOM 24 or 12 hr digital (electronic) clock \$39.90

FOR OUR POLICY CONDITIONS SEE PAGE 10

# VICOM INTERNATIONAL PTY LIMITED (03) 82-5398 139 AUBURN RD. AUBURN, VIC 3123. Manager: Peter Williams

Geelong - Phil Fitzherbert (052) 43-6033



# YAESU AMATEUR EQUIPMENT



## HERE'S WHERE IT IS MADE

Photo shows part of the modern Fukushima plant of Yaesu Co or Japan. The same high quality service is followed through at the Australian Agency, BAIL ELECTRONIC SERVICES, where full facilities exist to give you the Warranty, Service and spare parts availability that is your entitlement when you purchase new high quality equipment.

Here at B.E.S. we pre-sales check all sets to help ensure that you will have trouble free operation with your purchase. And, in the event that a problem does develop, then you can be assured that your purchase gives you an equity in our service facilities and spare parts. Write or call for information and advice about your amaleur radio requirements for all bands, all

modes.
THE AUSTRALIAN YAESU AGENT:—



ELECTRONIC 60 Shannon St., Box Hill North, SERVICES

ter menting of the state of

Ph. 89-221

# /// / F//IV "AMATEUR RADIO" MARCH 1975.

Patron Bgdr. G. P. Hunt C. B. E. VK6QJ President VK6MA A. Austin 681808 Secretary N. Penfold VK6NE 463232 Treasurer C. Waterman **VK6NK** 684717 Asst, Treasurer P. Dew AKEEII 684902 Broadcast Officer A. Austin VK6MA 681808 Equipment Officer G. Ogg VK6KY Minute Secretary R. Greenaway VK6DA 242909 Membership Secretary B. Pemberton VK6VW 871269 W.I.C.E.N. Co-ordinator P. Beacher AKUDD 763346 Bulletin Co-editors L Ball 281100Ext240 VK6AN R. Greenaway VK6D4 242909

All material for inclusion in the "Bulletin" to reach the editors by phone or to :-22 Salisbury St., Leederville, before the 10th. of each month.

CORRESPONDENCE.

All correspondence should be addressed to :-Hon. Secretary, W.I.A. (W.A. Division). P.O. Box N1002, G.P.O. PERTH. PERTH. 6001.

DIVISIONAL NEWS BROADCAST

VK6WT

Sundays,

W.A.S.T.

80 metres SSB 40 metres SSB 20 metres SSB

6 metres FM 2 metres FM

(Approx 3600 (Approx 7080

(Approx 14100 KHz (52.656 MHz ( Channel 1

WH 2

GENERAL MEETINGS.
Held on the THIRD TUESDAY of each month at 7.45 p.m. at Science House, 10 Hooper St. West Perth.

COUNCIL MEETINGS Held on the LAST FRIDAY of each month at 7.30 p.m. at the above address - - observers welcome. SLOW MORSE TRANSMISSIONS.

Practice sessions are held Monday to Friday inclusive, on 3550 KHz ± QRM at 8.30 p.m. W.A.S.T.

SUBSCRIPTIONS are OVERDUE - have you paid yours ?

Darwin Appeal all donations to the Divisional Treasurer.

INTRUDERS. Make it a habit to log and report at least one Intruder every time you go on the air - please !

This concerns all SWL's.

An attempt is being made to have a column of this Bulletin set aside for all SML's and this can only be achieved by you chaps getting behind the 8 Ball and contributing items of interests, comments and questions

It is felt that you have much to contribute and every effort will be made

to encourage you to perticipale.

Do you know of any SML who is not a member of the M.I.L.?? If so, let us innow and we will endeavour to encourage him (or her) to join. Remember they will be joining the ranks of some of the finest chaps enguene could wish to meet. They are always ready to offer advice and assistance where ever possible. You can show your appreciation by medical this collant a worthwhile section of the Bulletin. Further actuals can be obtained by writing to the Editor clearly merking your envelope.

"SML CORNER" and any contribution by wey of notes, items of interest and etc. can be forwarded in the same manner. So come on chaps - lets have it.

A "pen neme" may be used but all correspondence must have name and

auti-ose avaderous

A few weeks ago I was viciting the shack of a SWL and was most concerned to soo a small child of chout 3 years of ago climbing under the work beach where a fully apposed Power Sundy was switched on This could have ended in tradgety FIENSE use extreme caution with your conjument. It is a simple matter to install anothly shields ofc, and to put that year book in its mice safe cabinet after you have been vorking on the

Do you had, of may "pirated" operating????? Remainer those clots are only making things bad for us all. Frag have a total disregard for rules of any scart. INCRET SHAE TEXTLETED

\*\*\*\*\* \*\*\* \* \*\*.:

Wednesday 15-1-75 on 2 metres.

Who was the operator transmitting with his cor radio blaring out background rusic. Could be be committing a broach of Regulations?

\*\*\*\*\*\*

The thould of all 4.5% go to the Operature responsible for putting over the News Larendranus on Our by remains, Mery of us exact phone in or be on the "oall back" but we asked the time the service is greatly appreciated by us all

I would like so hear from all SMI's giving my your name, address, age,

equipment and any particular interior's This would be of great help and may enable us to be of eaststance to some other service or part of the W.I.L.

10.

SCHOOL RADIO CLUB NOTES

DOLOCH MADEO GEND INSTE

HAMILION SENICR HIGH SCHOOL LADIO CLUB

Hamilton Sur High School have equived an FM 60 2 matre Base Station and are keen to become active as VKGH. Unfortunately the transcievur has to be put on to 2 metres and the club leaders VKGH and VKGH cannot obtain the information Would any Amsteur who is willing and has any details of this unit or know how please contact VKGH - (HR or 99276. The help would be gratefully recieved.

The group is also keen to obtain a 2 metre mobile transcriever at a Page 2 of 8 pages

reasonable cost. If you have equipment for sale which does not need modification or repairs would you please contact VK6NH

BINHIRY CATHEDRAT, GRAMMAR STROOT,

The object mentioned achieve we and in " saw a " " as in citato" we and realing Option to First and Second Year students.

The following year, Radio 1 and Radio 2 were offered and about 30 boys and 4 girls took the course. Most were successful and many recieved certificates at the various levels after passing the Y R 3 exems.

This year 15 students have studied Radio 2 . Seven have gained Intermediate Certificates

Keith, VKGIT the Club Organiser, has written a Radio 3 Course which prepares

students for the A.O.C.P. comminations. Three students art for the A.O.C.P. in August. Two passed Regs and got Theory marks in the 50's Both are foun and will be sitting again in February We wish then luck.

A disappointing feature of the clabs activities has been the lack of skeds on VHT - only three Porth stations were contacted on 6 metres in three years although we were getting through 5 - 6 and 5 - 8 on 52.586.

Now that the school is eligible for a full callsign (VK6AG ??) and hF equi, ment " lope to be more successful.

In any operators (retired) can come up on 80 Metres on Mondays 4 - 5 pm or any lunchtime 4,00- 1-25 um we would be only too pleased to "sked" as the lads are very beer

Keita vion

PARAM MODERN SCHOOL PIDES CELC

The P.A. C. Ratio Club are a listle lace starting off during 1974 due to the lack of an Operator. We believe that same of the Ladsput some pressure on Los VIAN who cane to their assistance and in September VK6PS was back on the air. Quite a deal of experimenting with antonnas was done by the monbers as survible areas are a bit of a problem. Finally came up with an Invested V for 80 and 20 metres in wine for J.O.T.A. and from reports these must have not ned getter well.

D'al for him are as gut un vailable but do believe some of the lads will not claim stoling at the Albony Hamfest.

If you didn't have any saccess with the last couple of "puzzles"

THIS CO 20 000 000

....

4 From the QSL Manager's Report :-There has been a small increase in turnover with a greater proportion destined for Japan and U.S.A. This has led to a better economic handling until October last when the rise in postage was over 60%. Approval was thus requested for a rise in sticker prices to 80 cents per 100 and dated from the December General Meeting. A close measurement of postage costs compared with cards despatched since October has been kept and in packs of 100 gm and over there is some slight gain to offset a number of obscure addressees. The position will be reviewed each quarter of this year and any abnormal situation will be advised. The assets of the Bureau are \$79,13 to commence the new year which is considered quite adequate. THE WIRELESS INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIA W.A. DIVISION OSL BUREAU AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1974 \$106.00

1. to 1.74 Sale of Scickers 1. to 1.74 Purchase of Stamps 21.00 31.12.74 Receipt Book 00.58 31,12,74 \$106.00 ====== \_\_\_\_

TRADING ACCOUNT 1. 1.74 Stock of Stickers \$65.92 31.12.74 Sale of Stickers \$106.00 \$33.03 Stock of Stickers\$ 53.08 Stock of Stamps Purchase of Stamps on hand \$ 26.05 Stamps Trading Profit \$185.13 \$185.13

====== ASSETS

1.75 1. Stock on hand Postage Stamps \$ 26.05 Stickers atcost\$ 53.08

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VK6RI) J.E.RUMBLE QSL Manager.

Answer to Last months Brain Teason

Contributed by Will VK6UU.

This six element wood boom Yagi is the best performer on 2 metres I have come across. Several have been built, including 2 stacked 6 by 6

The single 6 element has a gain of 10 db with a 3 db beam angle of about \$\frac{1}{2}\$ 30 degrees,

Elements are cut from 1/8 in, brass rod, and the boom from a suitable length of 3/4 in, wood.

Construction: Drill holes of such a size that the elements require tapping into position - this should hold them in place. Gamma rod is mounted in the same manner and in the same plane

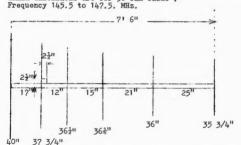
as the elements. The Gamma capacitor is a 30 pf beehive type.

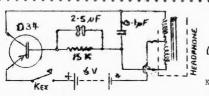
Method of water proofing - this is up to you.

When attaching coax braid to centre of driven element.divide

braid into two parts and attach one half onto one side of driven element and the other onto the other side . This is necessary because the wooden boom makes attachment to the oxact centre rather difficult. If you want to be sure that the elements wont fall out, a drop of solder on either side of the wood boom will do the trick.

Gamma dimensions are for 50 ohm cable .





GODE PRACTICE DSCILLATOR

Knock the Zed Off your callsign-huh? Below are some of the highlights from the report from the Scout Association of Australia 17th Jamboree -on-the-Air.

1 About 20% more Scouts, but about 20% less Guides and the lowest number of visitors for five years took part. The weather was terrible - a very stormy week-end which threatened the portable antennae systems, but showed the value of proper pioneering methods-

so that probably accounted for the drop in numbers, 1 'Christmas Island reported in for the first time and showed what

a dream DX they had- Malaysia, UK, Finland, Malawi, Italy, Germany,

Bahrain, India, Sweden, Denmark, and South Africa, For the first time RTTY was used between Scout Groups in W.A.

and demonstrated operating DX, but not to a Scout station. 'From the log Sheets it seems only one station in W.A. (VK6AN) was able to contact VK1BP for the official opening. Our attempts to tape the exercise for rebroadcast at a time convenient to W.A. were unsuccessful. It is still not sure whether 1500 or 2000 hours is more convenient, 1

A copy of a report apparently printed as a press release accompanied one of the Guide returns, and it shows the true spirit

of W.I.A./ J.O.T.A. co-operation:-

J.O.T.A. meant a very interesting and enjoyable Saturday afternoon for the 1st, South Perth Guides and their Leader, who were accompanied by the Division Commissioner of Lee Steere South, Mrs Gelley. There were friendly conversations with other W.A. Guide and Scout Groups and with the 1st. Silkstone Scout Group of Ipswich, Queensland, The callsign was VK6LG and the operator frequently gave his identification by saying' 6LG - Six Lovely Girls' much to the blushes and amusement of the Guides who, appropriately, numbered six. Between calls, the operator, Mr. L.G. Wilson, told of his contacts and experiences over many years of ham operating from the time he was introduced to radio in the 1920's. He played a tape recording, which included traditional Japanese music, sent by a fellow "ham", a Japanese doctor.

After having stayed far longer than intended thanks were extended to our host, who seemed reluctant to say goodbye, and homeward bound the girls all agreed that it had been a satisfying afternoon in more ways than one- the pleasure gained from contact with other groups, and being in the company of a fine old gentleman who apparently really enjoyed himself in his first participation in J.O.T.A. with

Guides. 1

Once again many thanks to all those who made the weekend activity possible - Amateurs and their wives, National Organisation, Branch Staff, Liaison personnel, Leaders, Scouts and Guides.

Report from: - Peter Hughes VK6HU

Branch Commissioner for J.O.T.A. . . . . . . . . . . . . .

This is a magic space

to make it grow B I G G E R and B I G G E R before your eyes

DONT CONTRIBUTE ANYTHING TOWARDS THE BULLETIN,

From an SWL friend of mine, Bill Marchant, en route from Melbourne to Broome, comes this first hand account of how business as usual (almost) is the order of the day in Darwin in the aftermath of cyclone Tracey. I dont think Bill or the boys in Darwin will mind me putting this to print.

Dear Ross,

I'm still " on the road" but I have made my stopover in Darwin a lengthy one by giving a hand on some of the repair

work, mainly re-roofing.

Last night I had the priveledge of attending the 100 th. meeting of the Darvin Amateur Radio Club. This was held in the ground floor flat of Henry VK8HA, the secretary, and since the flat was a ground floor one it was in reasonable condition, the noise of a portable generator outside being the only indication that something strange was afoot. However, if you looked out the window at the wreckage of the Club H.Q. you'd realise these were extraordinary times.

The minutes of the 99th general meeting were read out :

"Meeting held at residence of VK8HA on 6.1.75

Meeting opened at 1930 hours,

Present: VK8HA, hon, sec. Due mainly to the aftermath of Cyclone Tracey devestation, no other

members available for the meeting.

(Signed ) VK8HA Hon, Sec,"

Needless to say these minutus were passed and seconded amid great laughter, and general business consisted of finding out the condition of beacons, towers and masts etc. This didnt take long, as they were all wrecked, Most personal equipment was intact - but water damaged and members agreed their big loss was that of technical notes and rublications, Just when the Club becomes operative again is very doubful since some members are either transferred or leaving Darwin, and those remaining have a prime concern of getting homes rebuilt so that wives and children can return. And if you see the colossal damage it is hard to imagine when that will be see the way, some of those present were Doug WKSKK, Barry 8ZCF, Henry SiA, Trevor SZCF, Java SZCF, Colin SCM, and in the visitors book I

noticed the signature of Bacil 6NA.

There were quite a number of QSL cards received which unfortunate by cannot be achievledged. One I notice was from R.A. Gray VK6RQ.

P.S. Rainstorm cent a few things afloat in my room, including this letter but apart from another envelope, I don't have to re-write.

I wonder is we could do a practical service for this club by collecting spare copies of "A.R." QST, etc and ARRL Handbooks or other technical publications to help re-establish this club?

Just a brief reminder to anyone willing to do a little bit more work

as a member of council - bung in a nomination form - thats the first step, then just sit back and wait for the election -if there is one!

WANTED URGENTLY

PROGRAM ORGANISER

URGENTLY WANTED

Must be willing to spend hours on the phone twisting arms by remote control. Must be flexible -able to change lectures instantly,

HAMADS

FOR SALE : Mosley Tri-Band Beam Please contact VK6WC Phone: 571550

Pye Ranger VHF Hi Band AM 12V Transcievers FOR SALE :

Ideal for modification and satellite work

8.

Pye hybrid Low Band AM

Weston Low Band AM

\$40.00 Pye 50MHi Band AM Base Communications Reciever Lafayette HA-600

\$20.00 \$ offer

\$25.00

\$135.00

Offer

\$140.00

12V and 2hOVAC Solid State Numerous Hi Band Pye Overland 10W

50' Crenk Up Tower with new guys Quantity of Aluminium Tubing

Shack Sell Out VK6NW Dave Bridge 574060 (B667487)

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264 High Road, Riverton 6155

KP202 (Chan B, 1 , 4 ) plus 10 NICADS FOR SALE: plus Charger

OTHR Phone: 68L092 VK6RII

Rotator Ham II. CDL4 or similar. WANTED: GIHR Phone: 462864 VK6HK

Globe D S B 100 Transmitter - ex VK6EJ FOR SALE :

DSBSC 80 mx - 10 mx with H/D Transformer and wire ready to go on air. \$50.00 o.n.o. Contact VK6CW for demo

## REPEATER G'ROUP NOTES

The new Solid State Repeater, which the group has decided to build, is already functional and may be in use when you read those notes. The Repeater Fund is running short and there are a lot of users of the Repeater who have not, as yet, helped financially. PLEASE - THE REPEATER NEEDS YOUR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

> Cheques etc. are payable to: J.C. Farnell C/- P.O. Box 87

> > SCARBOROUGH 6019 W.A.

EARBASHERS please note - Lecturers are required for our general meetings. Please feel free to choose your own topic! HURRY - before someone beats you to this wonderful opportunity. Page 8 of 8 pages.